Beach Road upgrades to kick off soon. PAGE 2
Motion to dismiss wrongful death claims vs Jeju Air denied. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

$1

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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 20, 2021
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Swimmers are seen enjoying the still waters of the newly rehabilitated Grotto. Inset shows the steep staircase going down. Photo taken by licensed commercial drone pilot BJ Eddy. Check out his YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/mydiGis7xwY.

BJ EDDY

Grotto is reopened

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After over a year of being closed for renovations, the newly improved Grotto and Grotto lookout are now officially reopened.

The Marianas Visitors Authority, in coordination with the CNMI administration and various sponsors, unveiled the newly rehabilitated Grotto site yesterday in a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"Today we celebrated the revitalization and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Grotto," said MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo. "It's been closed for so many [months]

See GROTTO on **Page 4**

AT A GLANCE

As of 6:55pm, Oct. 19, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated: **83%**

Days since last community transmission: **209**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	30,339
Fully Vaccinated:	29,676
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,881
Fully Vaccinated:	4,687
Janssen	
Fully Vaccinated:	821

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	16,991	163	17,154
Recovered	14,206	NU*	14,206
Active	2,559	145	2,722
Deaths	223	3	226

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	289	0	289
Traced via Travel Screening	252	0	252
Traced via Community Screening	37	0	37
Deaths	3	0	3

*NU=No update
Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

JGO allows Torres' executive ass't to submit sworn affidavit instead

» Torres will be the last to be called to testify next month

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Frances Dela Cruz, the governor's executive assistant, did not appear before the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee yesterday as scheduled after the committee allowed her to submit her testimony via a sworn affidavit instead.

See JGO on **Page 4**

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

Kan Pacific sues IPI anew for breach of contract

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. has moved its breach of contract lawsuit against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC to the U.S. District Court for the NMI and is now demanding a jury trial on the matter.

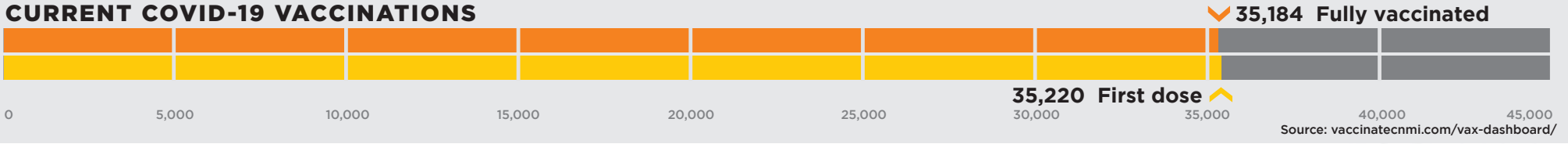
Kan Pacific, through its lawyer, Joseph Iacopino, filed a complaint yesterday with the federal court alleging that IPI has continuously failed and refused to pay Kan Pacific since its last payment in June 2019, breaching the agreement they made back in May 2016.

Iacopino said IPI remains obligated to pay Kan Pacific the June 2020 and June 2021 annual payments, among other things, amounting to over $400,000.

Aside from a jury trial, Kan Pacific wants the court to order IPI to pay damages, the sum owed, the costs to file the suit, prejudgment inter-

See KAN on **Page 4**

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE

NATION

Colin Powell, the trailblazing soldier and diplomat, dies of COVID-19 complications.

PAGE 12

ASIA

New Zealand counted its most new coronavirus cases of the pandemic Tuesday.

PAGE 13

LIFE & STYLE

A Los Angeles judge has approved the request of Kanye to legally change his name to just Ye.

PAGE 15

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Local

Beach Road upgrades to kick off soon

After months of weekly meetings and working sessions with CNMI agencies and federal partners, the CNMI Highway Taskforce, established by Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, announced yesterday that the Federal Highway Administration (Hawaii) and the Office of Insular Affairs have now authorized the Commonwealth to proceed with an "Invitation to Bid" to upgrade Beach Road from As Perdido to Oleai/San Jose.

"This project is the beginning of what will be a long, overdue improvement on Beach Road. After so many years of numerous patch works, we are finally going make the much needed reconstruction, improvements, and expansion in one of Saipan's main thoroughfares," said Palacios.

Acting Public Works secretary Antonio Camacho said the project improvements under what's called as Phase II will include the reconstruction of existing roadways such as new asphalt concrete pavement with dense graded anti-skid features, including pavement markings, road shoulders, drainage systems, driveway connections, and traffic signs.

"These will improve safety and visibility for all motorists," Camacho said.

Bike lanes and sidewalks will also be installed. These, said Public Works Highway administrator Lorraine Villagomez, will benefit individuals "placing focus on their health and prioritizing a healthier lifestyle"—particularly important in the time of the pandemic.

Palacios noted that the collaborative efforts of many individuals from several CNMI agencies have been exploring engineering, funding, and permitting considerations to plan and implement several important highway projects. "We all drive the same roads and understand the need for improvements," he said. "The need to align current projects with available funding sources has been a critical component of the overall effort of the CNMI Highway Task Force."

He pointed out that while the upgrade of Airport Road was the first project of highway improvements to be completed, the Cross Island Road (Talofofo) is now ongoing. The Beach Road Phase II Project is presently in the bidding process and the project itself will most likely begin in late December of this year or January 2022.

The CNMI Highway Task Force members include Public Works Technical Services Division civil engineers Henry Bautista and Isagani Salazar and Elizabeth Balajadia of the Capital Improvements Program who streamlined plans and funding with the Federal Highway Administration, OIA, Economic Development Administration, CNMI Department of Finance, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. using portions of the American Rescue Plan Act and the Community Development Block Grant--Disaster Relief.

"These highway projects did take time because there is so much involved, including engineering design, funding, and federal and local permit-

See BEACH on next page

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Guam logs 223rd COVID-19-related death

The Joint Information Center in Guam announced Monday the island's 223rd COVID-19-related death—a vaccinated 68-year-old male with underlying health conditions.

According to the JIC, the man tested positive for COVID-19 on Oct. 6 and was pronounced dead at the Guam Regional Medical City on Oct. 15.

JIC also reported that there are currently 52 individuals on Guam hospitalized for COVID-19. Of the 52, 29 are unvaccinated, 22 are vaccinated, and 1 is ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

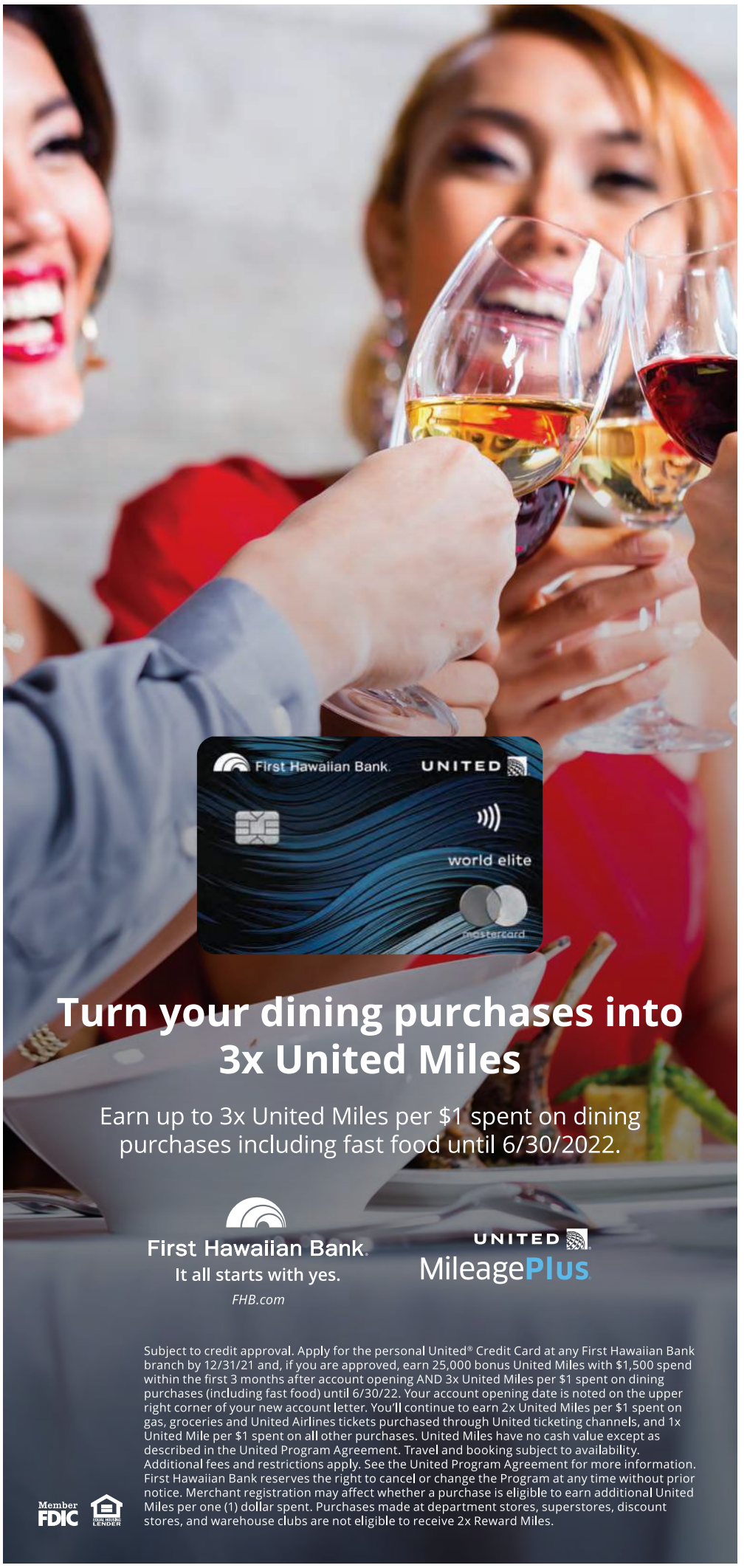
Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero said Monday that she, first gentleman Jeff Cook, and Guam Lt. Gov. Joshua Tenorio express their deepest condolences to those on Guam who have lost loved ones to COVID-19, and urged the Guam community to "prevent more days of sadness and mourning" by using the preventative measures against COVID-19 that are available to them. ***(Joshua Santos)***

BEACH

From Page 2

ting processes," Camacho said, "and we ask that our community remains patient once construction starts."

Palacios emphasized that cooperation among colleagues was crucial to assembling the required funding and meeting the requirements of the NEPA Process. "Working together, we can accomplish a lot," he said. ***(PR)***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WILL HE OR WON'T HE RUN FOR GOVERNOR?

Democratic Party still waiting on Kilili

» Quitugua hints 5 who are interested to run as governor already interviewed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Democratic Party disclosed yesterday that they have already talked with five individuals who are looking at a possible run for governor in next year's election, but they remain waiting for Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) to decide whether to run for governor or seek re-election as a delegate.

Whatever the case may be, the party intends to announce its candidates for governor and delegate by Nov. 4, 2021, said Democratic Party chair Nola K. Hix.

So far, only Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has already expressed his intent to run for re-election, with Sen. Vinnie Vinson Sablan (R-Saipan) as his running-mate.

Hix said during a press conference yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Kili Café and Terrace that Sablan is pretty much aware of the NMI Democratic Party's process that's ongoing and the Nov. 1, 2021, deadline to submit letters of intent to run.

NMI Democratic Party vice chair Daniel Quitugua said their gubernatorial search committee has been doing its due diligence in the past month and a half to identify potential candidates for governor within the party and has already started interviewing the five potential individuals. Quitugua and Hix declined to identify the five.

Notwithstanding what the search committee is doing right now, Sablan is the "center of this whole process," said Quitugua.

"For example, if Kilili (Sablan) decides to seek the gubernatorial office, all of the people that we interviewed will accept [Sablan as the candidate]," he said.

Hix reiterated an earlier announcement that they are now accepting submissions for nominations and letters of intent to run for governor, lieutenant governor, and U.S. delegate. Hix said these letters of intent will be due by the deadline of Nov. 1.

"We did open up nominations and letters of intent for the other seats, other public offices, and the deadlines for those will be announced at a later time," she said.

The chair said they are pretty confident that by Nov. 1, the people of the CNMI will be able to grasp this change that's coming.

Hix said she and Quitugua and the party have been working hard to come up with a formidable, credible ticket—one that the CNMI can be proud of.

"Once again, if people are looking to run for office, let's keep this positive energy going. Let's keep this momentum going, good governance continues," she said.

Hix said they are very excited as there's been a lot of really good positive comments that they have received from the community. "On people that are willing to run, are ready to run, whether it be the smaller offices or the bigger offices, we ask them to go ahead and submit. Because we really want to know who's out there. And the purpose of this is just…we're just adhering to our bylaws," she said.

That means the bylaws want candidates to be transparent and, in being transparent, they need to be able to open up this process to everybody, she said. "We will leave no stone unturned," Hix said.

With regards to Sablan, Hix said everybody's been waiting for this decision from him. "We've been in discussion with him. I am not his spokesperson. But he is very well aware of this process. Regardless of the decision that he makes, even when we made the call for him to run for governor, we basically put out a statement that whatever decision he should make , we would respect that decision," she said.

Hix said they expect to hear from Sablan before the Nov. 1 deadline so that they can make this announcement.

She said a lot of people have been wondering what the party is waiting for, now that Corina Magofna has been elected as House of Representative Precinct 3 representative, and that they are excited to move forward.

"We're excited to expand our outreach with regards to gubernatorial candidates," she said.

Now that vetting process is coming to a close, they need to be able to open it up to everybody to make sure that everybody gets a chance to have a seat at the table, and to also experience that vetting process.

Hix said they should have all of the letters of intent submitted to them by Nov. 1, and they are looking at an announcement by Nov. 4, when the Commonwealth celebrates Citizenship Day. "What a perfect time to be able to announce our gubernatorial candidate and U.S. delegate," she said.

Quitugua said the process for identifying who will be the next gubernatorial candidate for the Democratic Party is ongoing, but at the same time, they are waiting for Sablan to decide whether or not he will remain in his current seat or seek the gubernatorial seat.

"In the meantime, while we're waiting for that to happen, there's a process that currently going on, which is the creation of the gubernatorial search committee," he said.

He said chair Hix appoints the party members to that committee and that committee has done its due diligence in identifying potential candidates within the Democratic Party and start reviewing those individuals.

"We began that process almost a month and a half ago. And the one remaining can potential candidate that has yet to be interviewed will happen hopefully this week," Quitugua said.

Upon the conclusion of that interview, they will send the recommendation of the gubernatorial search committee to the members of the central executive committee of the Democratic Party.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

GROTTO

From Page 1

and, finally, visitors and locals are now able to enjoy the lookout."

The Grotto has been closed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic under an executive order of the governor. MVA and many other agencies supporters used that time to repair and improve the site, which had deteriorated much due to the uncontrolled influx of visitors.

Iakopo said the site, which took over six months to rehabilitate, is now safer and more accessible to everyone. "This is a unique natural gem of the Marianas. The Grotto today is more beautiful and more safely accessible than ever."

Renovations to the site include a new Grotto sign, an improved wheelchair access, complete makeover of the Grotto lookout, and rehabilitation of the railings and stairs leading down to the Grotto cave, improvements on the pavilions and restrooms, and more.

"We'll start with the lookout. So what we [started] with was the railings. Those are all improved. You can see the Latte stones incorporated into the railings and we even have the Saipan letters. Next, we improved the wheelchair access. We actually had several of our organizations break down the former because the way the access was going, and then we did some leveling. Then we move down to the entrance of the Grotto. If you go down the stairs, the railings and the stairs have been rehabilitated. Then we also did repairs and painting fixtures on the pavilions as well as renovating the restrooms. We also incorporated a new Grotto sign. …We also repaired the Captain Vicente Manglona Concepcion monument as this the Grotto was dedicated to him," she said.

Grotto has been a popular spot through the years for both locals and visitors alike. "Many of us have swam here, walked down the over 100 steps, and survived the walk back up. A few of us have even gone even further by diving these beautiful waters, and then walking back up with tanks on our back," said Iakopo.

Grotto has won numerous international accolades and was once featured in *Skin Diver* magazine as the No. 1 cavern dive in the world. Grotto is one of the most popular sites in the Marianas, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Initially, the rehabilitation program started off with MVA and the Office of the Governor and Lt. Governor, Iakopo said. Down the road, MVA partnered with the Grants Management Office and the Department of Correction's Community Outreach program, and more.

"So, when the governor and lieutenant governor, created the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers, through their PPP program, we were able to expand the partnership. That's why we now have five or six organizations who have adopted the Grotto," she said.

The list of organizations who have "adopted" or essentially sponsored the rehabilitation of Grotto are the Office of the Governor and Office of the Lt. Governor, Governors Council of Economic Advisers, Grants Management Office, Department of Corrections and its Community Outreach Program, Dept. of Public Lands, Office of Zoning, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation, Bureau of Environmental Coastal Quality Coastal Resources Management, Tasi & the Ali'is, Loco & Taco Restaurant, Dive Wish, International Roller Skates Saipan, Saipan Adventure, and Mariana Light House.

All the organizations will take part in the maintenance of the facility in conjunction with MVA, Iakopo said.

JGO

From Page 1

Committee chair Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) was quick to add, though, that this does not mean the committee is giving up its legislative right to compel Dela Cruz's physical presence to provide live testimony before the committee.

Babauta said they are making this decision after reviewing the proposal of Ross Garber, the Washington, D.C.-based lawyer for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the Governor's Office in the JGO matter, and that it is the decision of the committee to permit Dela Cruz to submit an affidavit as to her duties related to the subpoena that was served upon her.

"That is the decision collective decision of this committee," she said.

The committee is investigating Torres' expenditures of public funds and travels.

Babauta announced the committee's decision after its members and House counsel Joseph Taijeron met with Garber in a conference call shortly before yesterday's JGO hearing.

Garber and Viola Alepuyo, counsel for Dela Cruz, earlier earlier objected to the subpoena for Dela Cruz to testify, asserting that she has testimonial immunity. Instead, Garber had proposed that the committee members submit their questions ahead of time to Dela Cruz, and that the latter will reply to those questions within seven days.

Babauta said she has called for a JGO meeting this coming Tuesday, Oct. 26, at 10am, in which they are expecting Dela Cruz to submit her affidavit no later than 10am on that day.

Babauta said this accommodation is in no way to be interpreted as conceding to whatever immunity or privileges Dela Cruz may or may not have.

"With respect to Garber's objection and Alepuyo's objections, we are not unreasonable. We are not uncompromising. This is democracy in action," Babauta said.

Garber, Alepuyo, and Dela Cruz were not present in the House chamber yesterday.

The committee served Dela Cruz a subpoena last Oct. 8. Garber and Alepuyo have been communicating back and forth with the committee over the past several days regarding the subpoena.

Babauta said yesterday was Oct. 19, or the 11th day since the subpoena was served.

Babauta said Garber and Alepuyo have objected to the subpoena and have made claims of absolute testimonial immunity for Dela Cruz because she is an executive assistant to the governor. Babauta it is the same position that she herself held for 16 years when she was still working at the Office of the Governor under then-governor Juan N. Babauta. She said the position does not entail much more than is administrative in nature.

"There are certainly no threats to national security or trade secrets that may be exposed to a person who engages in that position. Trust me," Babauta said.

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) reiterated that they are absolutely clear that they are allowing Dela Cruz to submit a signed and sworn written affidavit under penalty of perjury.

Sablan said Dela Cruz's affidavit would attest to her duties, responsibilities, knowledge and experience as to the subject matters that are listed in the subpoena that she received, including travel for the governor and first lady, reimbursement requests by the governor, utilities of the governor's, among others.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

KAN

From Page 1

est, attorney's fees, and other relief deemed appropriate by the court.

The case arises from written agreement that had been entered between Kan Pacific and IPI on or about May 9, 2016. This case was originally filed with the Superior Court but was dismissed back in July.

The written agreement was entered between Kan Pacific and IPI was meant to incentivize and compensate Kan Pacific for the closure of Kan Pacific's business operations prior to the termination of its lease agreement.

The agreement between Kan Pacific essentially transferred all assets and operations from Kan Pacific to IPI and required Kan Pacific to encourage present employees to join IPI.

As part of the consideration for entering into the agreement, IPI became contractually and legally bound and obligated to pay Kan Pacific the sum of $5 million, which was to be satisfied by making 25 annual payments to Kan Pacific in the amount of $200,000 on June 1 of each calendar year starting on June 1, 2017.

IPI made the first three annual payments that were due in June 2017, June 2018 and June 2019. However, Iacopino said IPI failed and refused to tender any portion of the amount that became due and owing on June 1, 2020.

"Kan Pacific sent IPI more than 10 days' notice of such default, and IPI has nevertheless continued to refrain from tendering any portion of such payment or any other amount that has become due and owing thereafter, including the annual payment that became due and owing on June 1. 2021," he said.

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Motion to dismiss wrongful death claims vs Jeju Air denied

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI dismissed last week the motion to dismiss wrongful death claims against Jeju Airline Company Ltd.

Last Thursday, District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona denied the motion made by Jeju Air's lawyer, Richard Miller, to dismiss the two claims of wrongful death and intentional infliction of emotional distress filed by Mari Chung Cepeda.

Back in September, Jeju Air moved to dismiss Cepeda's complaint in its entirety.

According to court documents, Cepeda blames Jeju Airlines for the death of her mother, Tae Hyang Bang, after the airline refused to let her board a flight for Korea so she could obtain medical treatment for her worsening heart condition.

Cepeda, in her complaint, said Bang's heart condition took a turn for the worse in December 2020 so she decided to bring her to Korea as soon as possible to consult with a cardiologist and undergo whatever procedures were necessary to correct her condition.

Normally, Jeju Air had daily flights to Korea but as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, flights were discontinued. However, Jeju did offer a flight from Saipan to Korea on Jan. 15, 2021. Cepeda wanted Bang on that flight.

On Dec. 9, 2020, Cepeda attempted to book a seat on that flight but was unsuccessful. On that same day, she contacted Jeju Saipan staff member Ana Kim and told her that her mother was in critical condition, with a heart problem that could not be treated on Saipan and that she was desperate to get her mother to Korea as soon as possible, and she would need to have oxygen on the plane. The complaint stated that Kim told Cepeda she would do her best to help her, but had to check with Jeju Air's upper management.

On Dec. 12, 2020, Cepeda informed Kim that she had ordered what's called a POC, the Inogen One, which was approved and authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration, for her mother's use. Kim later told Cepeda that Jeju Air management refused to allow Bang on the plane with the Inogen One.

Later that day, Cepeda received a message Kim who said that Jeju's decision was final and that her mother would not be allowed on their plane to Korea on Jan. 15, 2021 with a POC.

On Dec. 30, 2020, Cepeda filed a complaint against Jeju Air with the Department of Transportation and received a reply, stating, "We will remind the carrier that as they are operating into a U.S. airport since the rule also applies to territories that they need to abide by the [Air Carrier Access Act] which requires them to accept FAA-approved POCs. We will forward your complaint to the airline and will ask the company to respond directly to you. Airlines are required to provide a substantive response to the complainant within 60 days." As of May 10, 2021, Jeju Air had not responded to Cepeda's complaint.

Through Bang's relatives in Korea, Cepeda was able to arrange an appointment for Bang to have a consultation at Asan Medical Center on Jan. 28, 2021.

Cepeda then again informed Jeju Air of the desperate condition her mother was in and how critical it was for her mother to get passage on the plane from Saipan to Korea, and that the POC she would use was approved by the FAA.

The lawsuit alleged that Jeju Air callously cut her off and recklessly refused to accept her explanations and failed to conduct any investigation of its obligations under the ACAA and the FAA approval of the Inogen one POC.

According to the lawsuit, if Bang had been able to be on that flight and get to Korea on Jan. 15, 2021, she would have completed a 14-day quarantine and made the appointment at Asan Medical Center on Jan. 28, 2021.

If not for Jeju Air's violation of the law in refusing passage to Bang using a POC, Cepeda said Bang would have arrived in Korea on Jan. 15, 2021, and would have had access to the specialized cardiac care at Asan Medical Center that would have saved her life.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School is an official 2021 "Toys for Tots" partner this holiday season. Community members who would like to donate toys to the "Toys for Tots" program can drop off their toy donation at Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School. The "Toys for Tots" program is a charitable initiative hosted by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve that provides toys to disadvantaged children during the Christmas holiday season. The program is spearheaded by the Associated Students of Northern Marianas College and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. Businesses who would like to participate in this program and host a toy collection box can email saipantoys4tots@gmail.com.

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CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

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(1) Maintenance/Custodial-I (CPA Rota)
(1) Ports Police/ARFF-I (CPA Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 29, 2021.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
RFP NO.: DPW22-RFP-001

SUBMISSION DATE: November 16, 2021 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"ECONOMIC RESILIENCY CENTER, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The RFP Package and Scope of Work is available on or after **October 13, 2021** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center.

There will be a **Pre-Proposal Conference** for this project on **October 29, 2021**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the **Infrastructure and Recovery Program Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Saipan**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 08, 2021** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ANTHONY A. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary, DPW

/S/ DAVID DLG. ATALIG
Secretary of Finance

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
Acting Director, Division of Procurement Services

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold a **Special Board meeting** on Friday, **October 22, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. Preliminary Matters
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Reading of the Notice of the Agenda
D. Adoption of Agenda
II. Executive Director Status Report
III. A. Request for Approval to Utilize Competitive Sealed Proposals as the Source Selection Method for the Supply and Delivery of Lubricants and Oils for Power Plants on Rota and Saipan
B. Request for Approval to Utilize Competitive Sealed Proposals as the Source Selection Method for Fiber Optic Installation.
IV. Public Comments
V. Executive Session**
(Consultation with Legal Counsel)
VI. Adjournment

_____/s/_____
WESTON THOMAS DELEON GUERRERO,
Acting Chairman, CUC Board of Directors

* All interested persons are welcome to attend, and submit written and oral testimony on the above-agenda items. Public Comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes.
** Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, the CUC Board of Directors may vote to meet at any time in executive session, in consultation with the Legal Counsel on matters deemed privileged and confidential.

From left, Marianas High School principal Jonathan Aguon, MHS Dolphin Pride Club adviser Ashley Beck, T-Project founder and president Tyra Lyn Sablan, and MHS vice principals Melanie Rdiall and Romolo Orsini share a photo after Sablan handed over $500 last Friday to the MHS Dolphin Pride Club to support the club's future and its fundraising activities. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

T-Project donates $500 to MHS Dolphin Pride Club

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

T-Project— a trans-led nonprofit group that advocates for LGBT+ rights— donated $500 last Friday to the Marianas High School Dolphin Pride Club to support the club's future and its fundraising activities.

Present for the handoff last Friday were T-Project founder and president Tyra Lyn Sablan, MHS principal Jonathan Aguon, MHS Dolphin Pride Club adviser Ashley Beck, and MHS vice-principals Melanie Rdiall and Romolo Orsini.

In a letter to Rdiall and Beck, Sablan wrote that she hopes to continue T-Project's partnership with the MHS Dolphin Pride Club to continue creating safe and inclusive spaces within the high school and in the community.

"It is very exciting to see such support for our students and we are very grateful for allowing us to partner with your school's Pride Club. We hope that we can continue this partnership in assisting them with their goal of creating a safe and inclusive space for everyone at Marianas High School and involving them in their community outside of school," wrote Sablan.

In an interview Monday, Sablan said the donation to the Pride Club was one way T-Project seeks to "remove some of the barriers that people face in our community" and allow the CNMI's LGBT+ youth to excel.

"Life is hard enough as a teen, add being LGBT+ to that mix, and life gets even more hard and confusing. T-Project is here to try and remove some of the barriers that people face in our community, especially with our youth. We wish to see our community thrive and be whole with one another, [and] this type of funding for pride clubs will allow our youth to focus on achieving their mission and vision," said Sablan.

Tanapag Youth Center renovations complet

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The renovations at the Tanapag Youth Center have been completed and dates for a soft reopen and ribbon-cutting ceremony are in the works, said Division of Youth Services Family and Youth Enhancement Program supervisor Jennifer Tanaka last Friday.

The Division of Youth Services is now in the process of obtaining several licenses and clearances for the youth center, including building approval from the Department of Public Works, fire safety approval, child care services licensing through the CNMI Child Care Licensing Program, and others, Tanaka added.

Tanaka said she is excited, though, about the reopening, as the center saw many young visitors before it was closed in early 2020 for renovations to improve and extend the center's kitchen, build a new classroom, and revamp existing parts of the center.

"I'm very excited because it was a very active center before it closed down for renovations; a lot of kids go there. Once we reopen and announce that we're ready, I really hope that they come back because it's for them and it's for free," she said.

Saipan Tribune reported in September that the renovations of the center were made possible through a $200,000 Community Development Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that DYS applied for through the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp | Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairperson of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Board Meeting was re-scheduled to Friday, October 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance. In compliance with the CNMI COVID-19 guidelines, Face-masks must be worn, social distancing will be enforced, and not more than ten (10) people will be allowed in the conference room during the course of the meeting.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda
   d. Adoption of Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

IV. OLD BUSINESS
   a. CDBG-DR Updates

V. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Amend Small Purchase Threshold and Bonding Requirements
   b. Amend Procurement Protest
   c. Conflict of Interest Form and Waiver
   d. REAC Inspection Results
   e. New Housing Programs
   f. LIHTC Request for additional credits Ladera Homes

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
   a. Personnel Matters

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT
(Notes: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13 (a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/
Merced (Marcie) M. Tomokane
Chairperson of the Board

Tinian Field Office
Tel: (670)433-9213
Fax: (670)433-3690

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

Rota Field Office
Tel: (670)532-9410
Fax: (670)532-9441

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514 I Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

10/05/2021
Notice for Public Comment
Reprogramming of Community Development Block Grant COVID (CDBG-CV) Fund

Program Year/ IDIS No.:	Program	Activity Name:	Subrecipient	Approved Budget	Proposed Reprogramming Amount	Proposed Revised Project Budget:	Current IDIS Funded Amount:
724	CDBG-CV	Mortgage Payment Assistance	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)	$274,000.00	($110,000.00)	$174,000.00	$274,000.00
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:		**$274,000.00**	**($110,000.00)**		
NEW	CDBG-CV	Emergency Rental Payment Assistance	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)	$0.00	$110,000.00	$110,000.00	$0.00
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:			$110,000.00		

Our agency through its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that we publish a "Public Notice" on reprogramming of funds over $100,001.00. Therefore, comments from the general public should be submitted to NMHC Central office located in Garapan, Saipan on or before November 5, 2021, no later than 4:30 P.M.. You may contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Ms. Tricia Tenorio, Planner at (670)234-6866/9447.

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Hallelujah! We're getting a huge raise in our social security checks in January!
SOCIAL SECURITY RAISE IN 2022 LARGEST IN 39 YEARS! 5.9% INCREASE
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SUPPLY shortage
FOOD COSTS
INFLATION
WILL THAT BE ENOUGH?
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EDITORIAL

Colin Powell preached decency and integrity. And he was strong enough to admit he'd made mistakes

For its San Diego convention in the summer of 1996, the Republican Party was anxious to avoid the acrimonious tone of its gathering in Houston four years earlier. So the GOP turned to its most respected voice of moderation and reconciliation: Gen. Colin Powell. He did not disappoint.

"Yes, we Republicans have leaders and principles that are worthy of our aspirations," he said. "Let us take our case to our fellow citizens with respect for their intelligence and fair-mindedness. Let us debate our differences with the Democrats strongly, but with the civility and absence of acrimony that the American people long for in our political debate."

Stare at Powell's words just 15 years later and they feel like a relic from a lost era.

Civility? Longing? Absence of acrimony?

Those ideals have been cudgeled to death by Facebook, Twitter, and a panicked and partisan media that, as Jon Stewart aptly noted on CNN Sunday, now does a terrible job of de-escalation of the tensions in America, preferring to compete by exposing the "purely emotional fault lines that occur in society."

The media, of course, learned both from the amoral algorithms of Silicon Valley and from the scorched-earth rhetoric of President Donald Trump, a man who cares not for the longings of good-hearted American people and regards de-escalation as mere weakness, unleashing demons that have poisoned both sides of American politics in the 21st century.

In that speech, Powell was, in fact, looking forward to the approaching millennium. He spoke of how America stood on the eve of a new century that, he said, was "likely to be filled with "change, anxiety, excitement and opportunity."

He surely did not anticipate the accuracy of his first two descriptors, both of which so far have squelched the latter two.

Nor could he have imagined that he would embody so many of the risk factors that would pit him against the fatal headwinds of a global plague.

Powell was male, Black, 84 years old and suffering from a cancer of the plasma cells, all of which combined to make him vulnerable to COVID-19, even with vaccination, a life-saving gift for many but, alas, not without limitations for those with comorbidities.

Powell will be seen as one of the most prominent COVID-19 deaths. The son of immigrants was the first Black U.S. secretary of state, serving from 2001 to 2005, national security adviser from 1987 to 1989, and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993.

He received two Presidential Medals of Freedom and a Congressional Gold Medal, as well as numerous other honors. He led a life of achievement, dignity, patriotism and respect for service. Had John McCain picked him as his 2008

See COLIN on next page

US courting a cold war with China

By MELVIN A. GOODMAN
The Baltimore Sun

Melvin A. Goodman is a senior fellow at the Center for International Policy and a former CIA intelligence analyst from 1966 to 1990.

Why is the United States—its president, its politicians, its pundits—hellbent on creating a cold war environment and arms race with China?

CIA director William Burns has created a new center with the sole function of collecting intelligence on China and countering that country's espionage against the United States. And President Joe Biden, who has assembled a hard-line national security team on China, has continued the bombastic policies of Donald Trump, leaving tariffs in place over the opposition of American business leaders.

There are bipartisan majorities in the Congress supporting increased defense spending and modernization of nuclear weapons, even though the size of the U.S. military is already disproportionate to the Chinese threat. And in a further effort to counter China, the president also entered into a deal to provide nuclear submarine technology to Australia, even though the United States hasn't provided such technology to any nation since the late 1950s and the Australian treaty violates the spirit of the Non-Proliferation Treaty of the late 1960s.

China's response to the surprising submarine deal was quick and forceful. Last week, nearly 150 Chinese warplanes were flown into Taiwan's air defense identification zone, placing military tensions between China and Taiwan at their worst level in four decades. China's President Xi Jinping didn't mention the flights in his speech commemorating the 1911 revolution that overthrew China's last imperial dynasty, but he did vow to achieve a peaceful "unification" with Taiwan.

Meanwhile, the Department of Defense prepares for confrontation with China, and issues worst-case assessments of Beijing. The recent war scare in China required several calls from former secretary of defense Mark Esper and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley, as well as the postponing of a naval exercise in the South China Sea, to calm waters. An underwater collision involving a U.S. nuclear attack submarine in the South China Sea last week should serve as a wake-up call to the policy and political communities mired in group think on China. Chinese foreign policy experts have compared the dispute in the South China Sea to the Cuban missile crisis.

We hear nothing from the departments and agencies of government that could address the issue of China more realistically with measures to enhance bilateral relations and temper the public atmospherics. The Commerce Department should be focused on economic security and civilian technology to counter the Pentagon's emphasis on military security and technology. According to a recent Politico article, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security—central to technology trade with China—suffers from a lack of strategic direction and insufficient resources. There is no discussion of returning to the Washington-inspired Trans-Pacific Partnership, a regional trading association best suited to competing with China in East Asia.

The Department of State remains understaffed, and there is no hint of arms control measures that could address tensions in U.S.-China relations. Secretary of State Antony Blinken has surrendered his role in bilateral diplomacy to National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan, the administration's public voice on relations with Beijing. There is ample basis for a significant strategic dialogue between the United States and China; they share many concerns in East Asia, particularly regarding North Korea's missile program.

The key to establishing an effective dialogue with China could be arms control, but the Department of Defense recently removed its assistant secretary of defense for arms control and disarmament. The two powers need rules of the road for navigating the South China Sea. The United States could limit its aircraft carrier deployments; China could limit its anti-ship forces. And both sides need to stop the China-bashing/America-bashing syndromes that have worsened over the course of the pandemic. The agency of government that we sorely need is the one that President Bill Clinton eliminated 25 years ago: the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The U.S. strategic position is still unassailable, even in East Asia, with military superiority in various domains. China lacks strategic allies. The United States has important relations with Australia, Japan, India, South Korea and various Southeast Asian states, a grouping that resembles an anti-China partnership. China is making no effort to project power into regions outside of its neighborhood; the United States has hundreds of facilities and bases the world over. President Biden needs to end the militarized approach to Asia, and institutionalize a serious bilateral dialogue.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The climate is still warming, but world leaders have a chance to fix that

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times*. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.*

This has been a year marked by terrifying news about climate change: extreme weather, massive wildfires, persistent drought in some areas and catastrophic flooding in others.

The sense of impending doom was made official when the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that the world is almost certain to blow past the target set by the 2015 Paris Agreement of holding the increase in global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius above the 19th-century level.

That was "a code red for humanity," U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres warned. "Global heating is affecting every region on Earth, with many of the changes becoming irreversible."

And yet, as improbable as it seems, there are glimmers of hope on the horizon.

Public opinion has moved, partly because more people now have firsthand experience with the effects of climate change. A poll sponsored by Yale and George Mason universities reported this month that a record 76% of Americans think global warming is real; only 12% think it isn't.

"Denialism," the dismissal of climate change as bogus, is dying.

An increasing number of Americans want their political leaders to do something about climate change. A Pew Research Center poll in May found that almost two-thirds say it should be treated as a top priority.

That's tempered by the fact that Americans rank plenty of other issues—beginning with the economy and COVID-19—as "top priorities."

But among Democrats and young voters especially, climate has become a core issue. They want their government to act.

Political leaders follow the poll numbers. In Europe, climate is a serious priority for almost all major parties. In the United States, the issue is polarized; many Republicans are still skeptical. But for Democrats like President Joe Biden and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, acting against climate change has become a must-do.

Next month, many of those politicians, including Biden, will head to the Scottish city of Glasgow for a summit meeting. The purpose is to win new commitments for action—especially from China, the industrial behemoth that burns more coal than the rest of the world combined.

The good news there is that China, which has long proclaimed its intention to clean up its energy sector some day, is increasingly a global outlier.

The International Energy Agency, which once championed fossil fuel industries, now says demand for oil, gas and coal could peak within a decade—thanks mostly to the rise of solar, wind and other low-carbon technologies.

"There is increasing optimism in the climate and energy communities that [carbon dioxide] emissions have plateaued or are now plateauing," Dagomar Degroot, an environmental historian at Georgetown University, told me last week. "Scenarios that forecast soaring emissions now seem implausible."

That doesn't mean the problem is solving itself, he warned.

"Warming will continue until we release fewer emissions than can be absorbed. ... That threshold still seems to be decades away. We need to work harder to bring it closer."

But while there's not much optimism in the short term, the long-run goal of slowing and then reversing global warming no longer looks unreachable. The problem can be solved with tools we have: evolving technologies, efficiency and conservation.

The environmental movement's problem now, perversely, isn't denialism; it's "doomism," the view that the planet's collapse is inevitable, and efforts to prevent catastrophe are futile.

"Fear-based messaging" was once useful because it grabbed people's attention, but now it risks getting in the way, Katharine Hayhoe, chief scientist of the Nature Conservancy, told me. Her new book, "Saving Us," makes a case for hope.

Doomism "isn't helpful when it leads to inaction," she said. "We're not just tied to the railway track, where there's nothing we can do. We're in the locomotive with our hand on the throttle. We have the ability to take our hand off the throttle and put our foot on the brake.

"We can't avoid all the impacts, because some of them are here today. But we absolutely can avoid the worst impacts," she added.

The next three decades will still be hard. The IPCC report described five possible scenarios for the rest of this century; even the most optimistic forecasts that temperatures will continue to rise through at least 2050. The five "best estimates" for the year 2100 were temperature increases ranging from 1.4 to 4.4 degrees Celsius.

The question for the politicians who are about to gather in Glasgow is: How much will they do to reduce those numbers? Which scenario do they want to bequeath to their successors—and to their grandchildren?

But it's just possible that this decade could be remembered as one in which humans solved a collective problem and began to tame climate change. That, at least, provides grounds for hope.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Time is finally on our side

While I can't directly connect the governor with the termination of two individuals who are now elected officials, it does speak volumes to the political trends under his administration. Congratulations to Corina Magofna for her well-earned and most deserving win as the people now have one more person whom they can trust! The alleged horrors of Republicans seem very true—if you are not for and loyal to the Republicans, your job is always at risk.

It must be hard for the people working under the Torres administration if they want to support the Democrats, given the "loyalty standard" that is clearly in place that was even substantiated by our DPS commissioner in a legislative hearing! It doesn't get any clearer than that when our top police officer tells us that "loyalty" is a reason for being retained or terminated. It's a real horror story!

I said Rep. Babauta and the JGO were on top of their game and not playing, as they were not fooled or deterred by the governor's so called "power-play" to stop his executive assistant from testifying. But his refusal to cooperate is just more proof that he lied when he said, "I have nothing to hide." He is just another dangerous sheep in a wolf's clothing. Every day that goes by with the JGO, we get closer and closer to putting the final nail in his political coffin and he is fighting the people and our representatives, still expecting to get re-elected. It seems he thinks he can say and do anything and we the people will just go along without protest.

It is often said the wheels of our government and justice turn slow and that is what we are experiencing. After over two decades of Republican complete control, we are finally reaching the culmination of our desires for years to end the corruption. Time is finally on our side and each day we get closer and closer to finding the right direction for real change and prosperity!

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the promotion of Deputy AG Chester Hinds to the position of chief prosecutor of the criminal division. Kudos to you. I truly believe you will surely be a good and even great prosecutor who will be tenacious in the quest for truth and handing out justice while being humane when needed in your prosecutorial duties. It's obvious that Mr. Hinds represents a true desire for diversity in the CNMI to become more appreciated and accepted in leadership roles. I just wish Mr. Hinds could be our next AG because he is exactly the treatment a political doctor would give for the CNMI when it comes to our justice system, if there is such a thing.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman III, Saipan

COLIN

From Page 8

running mate, Powell might well have gone on to be both vice president and president of the United States. He was, after all, only five years older than our current president.

His values, he told the 1996 convention audience, had been reinforced by his parents: "Integrity, kindness and godliness, they taught us, were right. Lying, violence, intolerance, crime and drugs were wrong and, even worse than wrong, in my family, they were shameful. We were taught that hard work and education were the keys to success in this country."

If you teach your kid to value integrity and abhor lies, you also teach them to admit when they are wrong, a skill that eludes so many of those who pursue politics and view such admissions as declarations of weakness.

Not so Powell.

In 2003, he made the case for war against Iraq to the United Nations, drawing on American intelligence agencies' faulty findings on Iraq's purported weapons of mass destruction program and standing behind its "accuracy." Indisputably, the self-described "reluctant warrior" was being used by his bosses as cover. There is no better advocate for war than someone known to be so averse to its propagation.

That United Nations testimony could be seen as a tragic mistake with horrific global consequences, made worse by Powell embellishing that which made the case he was presenting and omitting that which did not. Many might argue he should have resigned instead of being party to a falsehood.

Or, he could be seen as a loyal military man who had swallowed his own opinions after rigorous internal debate and taken his CIA briefings at face value, and was now supporting his commander in chief, as he had sworn to do. Positions were taken on Powell's testimony years ago, and they are unlikely to change in the face of his death.

Either way, Powell did not shirk his responsibility. On the 10th anniversary of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, he told Al-Jazeera: "I understood the consequences of that failure and, as I said, I deeply regret that the information—some of the information, not all of it—was wrong."

"It has blotted my record," he said, "but—you know—there's nothing I can do to change that blot. All I can say is that I gave it the best analysis that I could."

Rise high enough, as did Powell, and the blot makes an appearance in the first paragraph or two of your obituary. Powell well knew that. That was a risk he took.

But those who see nuance and complexity where others just see a chance to make their cases are doomed to have enemies on both sides of the political spectrum. So it went with Powell, a man of immense integrity who ended up bruised by the machinations of the country for which he had so much love.

In that 1996 speech, Powell also said: "We were taught by my parents to always, always, always believe in America."

He was stuck with that, whether he liked it or not. Wise heads and kind hearts can see how much he achieved, how much he gave and how apt it now would be for America to work on its acrimony.

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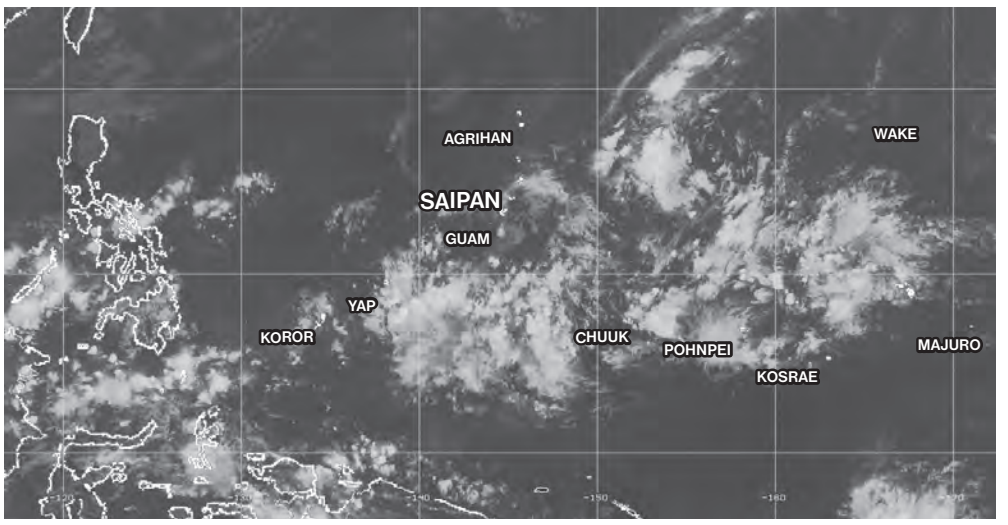
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light. Lows around 77. Chance of showers 40 percent.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs around 87. Lows in the upper 70s. chance of precipitation 30 percent.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Lows in the upper 70s. Chance of showers 20 percent.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Lows in the upper 70s. Chance of showers 30 percent.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of showers 40 percent.
87º / 77º	87º / 70º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:02 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light to gentle winds, mostly cloudy skies and scattered showers are seen over th4e Marianas coastal waters. The Ipan buoy is reporting combined seas of 3 to 4 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Fair	86 / 78 °F
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	86 / 77 °F
Yap	Cloudy	86 / 76 °F
Chuuk	Cloudy	83 / 78 °F
Pohnpei	Cloudy	88 / 75 °F
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	85 / 79 °F
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	84 / 80 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Thursday	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Saturday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Sunday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	5:36 AM	5:47 PM
Thursday	-	6:24 PM	6:23 PM
Friday	-	7:13 PM	7:01 PM
Saturday	-	8:02 PM	7:41 PM
Sunday	-	8:53 PM	8:24 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Fair	68 / 54 °F
Beijing	Fair	57 /34 °F
Hong Kong	Fair	82 / 76 °F
Honolulu	Fair	77 / 73 °F
London	Showers in the Vicinity	67/ 59 °F
Los Angeles	Clear	58 / 51 °F
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90 / 78 °F
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	62 / 48 °F
Miami	Fair	78 / 75 °F
New York	Fair	51 / 49 °F
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	69 / 56 °F
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	73 / 63 °F
Busan	Partly Cloudy	68 / 49 °F
Rome	Clear	74 / 47 °F
Salem	Clear	51 / 46 °F
San Francisco	Clear	53 / 48 °F
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	58 / 38 °F
Tokyo	Cloudy	60 / 53 °F
Washington, DC	Clear	54 / 46 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:37 AM	Low Tide	0.30
7:35 AM	High Tide	1.73
1:38 PM	Low Tide	0.55
7:23 PM	High Tide	1.82

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	6:45am	7:25am	1, 3, 6
UA117	9:45am	10:25am	2, 4, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	2, 5
UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	6:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via Guam
UA117/183	9:45am	9:10pm	4, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
TW9308	3:20PM	8:00PM	4
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:00am	5:41am	1, 3, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:41am	2, 4, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	9:50pm	3:55am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:25pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	9:50pm	5:41am+1	2, 5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25pm	5:41am+1	7 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:41am+1	1, 3, 4, 6 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	4

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Karidat Social Services advocate Calvani P. Deleon Guerrero, sixth from right, receives the 2021 Bridge of Light Award sponsored by Bridge Capital, IT&E, and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation at the recent Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation. The award is given out each year by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence to honor the accomplishments and efforts of one individual who has worked to end domestic violence and sexual assault in the CNMI. NMCADSV

NMCADSV's 2021 Bridge of Light awardee is Karidat advocate

» Coalition encourages more to pursue advocacy

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence recently named long-time Karidat Social Services advocate Calvani P. Deleon Guerrero as the recipient of the 2021 Bridge of Light Award.

The annual Bridge of Light Award is presented by NMCADSV to honor one extraordinary individual who has worked diligently to provide safety for the community, to work to end domestic violence and sexual assault, and to be a "bridge of light" for victims and survivors in the CNMI.

The ninth award recipient, Deleon Guerrero, has worked as an advocate at Karidat Social Services for over a decade, assisting victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking. From helping file temporary restraining orders to accompanying to CNMI Family Court to explaining available services like shelter and counseling, Deleon Guerrero has provided this help to hundreds of victims and survivors over the years.

Prior to working at Karidat Social Services, Deleon Guerrero pursued a career in law enforcement at the Honolulu Police Department before returning home to Saipan and briefly serving as the director of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Division of Youth Services.

Deleon Guerrero's nominator wrote that he should receive the award "not necessarily because of one specific accomplishment or action but because of his constant steady dependable presence that puts victims first and puts victims at ease…perhaps during one of the scariest and most anxious times in their lives."

"If you are a victim and [when] you know you have an advocate next to you, one that offers you the strength at a time when you can't find your own, you know you are not alone," they added.

After receiving the Bridge of Light award at the recent Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing ceremony at Saipan World Resort, Deleon Guerrero thanked his colleagues and his family, including his wife and three daughters, and recognized other partner agencies and notable guests in attendance. He also addressed victims and survivors, and what advocacy means in his remarks.

"This job is due to a greater cause and that is to help others in need. …This is not about me; this is about the victims who show so much courage," said Deleon Guerrero. "You inspire us to continue the movement so when you are ready, we are ready."

"Congratulations to Calvani Deleon Guerrero for being this year's Bridge of Light Award recipient," said Reina C. Camacho, NMCADSV board chair. "We were very moved and inspired by words on the nomination form and those by Calvani."

"It was an important reminder that advocacy is not about saving people but helping people find that they have the strength to find safety and healing," said Camacho. "This is what being a bridge of light for victims and survivors means."

Camacho added, "We also hope that those who want to help others and improve our islands will consider pursuing a career in social work and advocacy."

Part of the Bridge of Light award consists of a self-care package with a variety of gift certificates and vouchers sponsored by Bridge Capital, IT&E, and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation. Deleon Guerrero will also be receiving the opportunity to take part in a retreat or a training courtesy of NMCADSV.

"Thank you so much to Bridge Capital, IT&E, and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for your continued support of the Bridge of Light Award and for believing in the movement to end violence in the CNMI," said Camacho.

If you or anyone you know is experiencing violence or abuse, call 911 for emergencies. You can also call the Karidat Victim Hotline at 234-5100 for counseling or to ask questions. ***(PR)***

Power service interruption on Thursday

There will be a scheduled power service interruption on Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, intended to allow the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to perform systems maintenance by replacing three rotted wooden primary power poles to concrete poles along Talafofo Road.

- Outage Time: 9am to 2:00 p.m.
- Areas Affected: a Talafofo Road (Turtle Dove Ln., Uracas Ln., Bird Ln., Tinian Ln., San Ignacio Dr., Babale Pl., Ababang Pl., Alamagan Ln., partial of Egigi Dr. and Kingfisher Golf Links)
- Circuit: Feeder 4
- Water Wells) Affected: None
- Wastewater Facility Affected: None

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.comlCommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 ▪ Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 ▪ Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.NMIjudiciary.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

CLIENT SERVICES NAVIGATOR
Announcement # JVA22-002

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Chief Justice and direct supervision of Director of Courts or his/her designee. The employee in this class performs work that supports and coordinates services for all court consumers, clients, and employees. The incumbent is responsible to perform the duties and responsibilities below and meet the listed qualification requirements:

- Assists with photocopying, collating, and distributing pamphlets, forms, reports, letters, orders and other court documents.
- Maintains designated registry for incoming and outgoing correspondence and court issuances, including proper distribution to appropriate personnel or office.
- Answers incoming telephone calls and directs or refers them to appropriate personnel or office.
- Receives referrals or inquiries electronically and in person and drafts and tracks responses, including required documents.
- Assists visitors and directs them to appropriate personnel or office and performs general reception services including determining needs or other reasonable accommodation.
- Assists with and maintains required consumer tracking information including service response time, location, and outcomes.
- Compiles and assists with the updates of contact information, rosters, and directories for employees, offices, and stakeholders and related information.
- Assists with content creation for customer service essentials, quality standards for services, publications and other consumer reference materials.
- Assists with updates for all court information exchange platforms, including but not limited to court bulletins, kiosks, websites, and social media accounts.
- Assists with data collection activities, customer service evaluations, and reports.
- Assists at and attends meetings, trainings, and other settings that contribute to the advancement of access to court services and/or enhancements to customer service and programs.
- Runs errands at supervisor's request of supervisor and delivers documents to and from court facilities and other organizations as requested.
- Maintains professional etiquette, demeanor, and organizational skills during performance of duties and responsibilities.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Client Services Navigator must have any combination equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with an Associate's degree and a minimum of two (2) years experience in customer service, justice system support, or related work.

Must be proficient in in general navigation on digital, virtual, and other platform services, including electronic filing and social media accounts.
Must have the ability to multi-task and work in a fast-paced environment. Must have the ability to follow instructions.
Must be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel and knowledgeable about the use of data systems.
Must have exceptional interpersonal skills.

Candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid drivers' license and operate a court vehicle. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment. "Illegal drug" means a substance whose use or possession is controlled by federal law but that is not being used or possessed under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. (Controlled substances are listed in Schedules I-V of 21 C.F.R. Part 1308.)

Education completed in foreign colleges or universities may be used to meet the job qualification requirements if the applicant can show that foreign education is comparable to education received in accredited educational institutions in the United States. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide such evidence when applying for Judiciary jobs. Education received in foreign colleges or universities will be considered if the candidate submits an evaluation of the coursework from: (a) an accredited U.S. college or university; or (b) a private professional organization specializing in interpretation of foreign educational credentials.1

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be $28,000 – 30,000 per annum.

INTERESTED PERSONS PERSONS Application forms are available at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota during normal business hours except on weekends and holidays. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

NMI Judiciary
Human Resources
Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Cell. (670) 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@NMIjudiciary.com

This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.nmijudiciary.com

The Judiciary reserves the right to rescind or cancel this JVA at any time without notice.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

[1] The following organizations evaluate foreign educational credentials for employment and other purposes. All operate on a fee based on the extent of the education to be evaluated; applicants shall bear the cost of evaluation.
(a) Credentials Evaluation Service P.O. Box 24679 Los Angeles, CA 90024
(b) Education Equivalency Evaluation World Education Services P.O. Box 745 Old Chelsea Station New York, NY 10011
(c) Education Credential Evaluators, Inc. P.O. Box 17499 Milwaukee, WI 53217
(d) International Consultants of Delaware, Inc. 914 Pickett Lane Newark, DE 19711
(e) Foundation for International Services, Inc. P.O. Box 230278 Portland, OR 97223.
While the Judiciary offer these addresses as information to applicants who request assistance in obtaining an evaluation of foreign education, these services are not preferred over others which may exist.

Business

FOR MOBILE CALLS IN THE CNMI

New dialing procedure requires 670 area code

IT&E advises mobile subscribers that effective Oct. 24, 2021, all local phone calls in the CNMI must include the 670 area code.

The new dialing procedure impacts all outgoing calls made from mobile devices. Calls from landline numbers will not be affected.

The area code must be dialed first, followed by the local telephone number. (For example: 670-682-4483.) If the area code is not dialed, the call will not be completed.

The new dialing procedure is mandated by the Federal Communications Commission, which has designated 988 as the service number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The new dialing procedure will prevent accidental calls to the Lifeline, which could delay services to those in need.

"Our mobile subscribers in both Guam and the CNMI will be required to include their respective area codes when dialing," said IT&E general manager Rose Soledad. "We understand that the new dialing procedure will take some adjustment, but this will allow us to provide consistent operations for all our mobile subscribers."

Tips to prepare for the new dialing procedure:

■ Add 670 to the beginning of all local phone numbers on your contact list.

■ Reprogram all numbers on life safety systems or medical monitoring devices, PBXs, fax machines, fire or burglar alarms and security systems or gates.

■ For business: Be sure to check websites, personal and business stationery, advertising materials, personal and business checks for contact information and other such items to ensure the area code is included. ***(PR)***

EPA strategy to regulate 'forever chemicals'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Biden administration said Monday it is launching a broad strategy to regulate toxic industrial compounds associated with serious health conditions that are used in products ranging from cookware to carpets and firefighting foams.

Michael Regan, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, said his agency is taking a series of actions to limit pollution from a cluster of long-lasting chemicals known as PFAS that are increasingly turning up in public drinking water systems, private wells and even food.

The Defense Department said it is moving to assess and clean up PFAS-contaminated sites throughout the country, while the Food and Drug Administration will expand testing of the food supply to estimate Americans' exposure to PFAS from food. And the Agriculture Department will boost efforts to prevent and address PFAS contamination in food.

The plan is intended to restrict PFAS from being released into the environment, accelerate cleanup of PFAS-contaminated sites such as military bases and increase investments in research to learn more about where PFAS are found and how their spread can be prevented.

"This is a bold strategy that starts with immediate action" and includes additional steps "that will carry through this first term" of President Joe Biden, Regan said in an interview with The Associated Press. "We're going to use every tool in our toolbox to restrict human exposure to these toxic chemicals."

PFAS, called "forever chemicals" because they last so long in the environment, have been associated with serious health conditions, including cancer and reduced birth weight.

PFAS is short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances that are used in nonstick frying pans, water-repellent sports gear, stain-resistant rugs and countless other consumer products. The chemical bonds are so strong that they don't degrade or do so only slowly in the environment and remain in a person's bloodstream indefinitely.

Microsoft says it warned Bill Gates about flirting

REDMOND, Wash. (AP)—Microsoft executives in 2008 warned Bill Gates to stop sending flirtatious emails to a female employee but dropped the matter after he told them he would stop, the company revealed Monday.

The Wall Street Journal was first to report that Brad Smith, then Microsoft's general counsel and now its president and vice chair, and another executive met with Gates after the company discovered inappropriate emails to a mid-level employee.

The newspaper reported that Gates didn't deny the exchanges, and members of the Microsoft board who were briefed on them declined to take further action because there wasn't any physical interaction between Gates and the employee.

Gates

Microsoft declined comment Monday except to confirm the Journal's reporting. Smith didn't return a request for comment made through the company.

Gates' private office said in a written statement that "these claims are false, recycled rumors from sources who have no direct knowledge, and in some cases have significant conflicts of interest." It declined further comment.

The reported 2008 warning came more than a decade before similar alleged behavior led the tech giant to hire a law firm in 2019 to investigate a letter from an engineer who said she had a sexual relationship with Gates over several years.

That investigation preceded Gates' departure from Microsoft's board last year, but didn't come to light publicly until after Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates announced in May they had decided to end their marriage of 27 years. The divorce was finalized in August. The former couple still jointly runs the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Gates was Microsoft's CEO until 2000 and since then has gradually scaled back his involvement in the company he started with Paul Allen in 1975. He transitioned out of a day-to-day role in Microsoft in 2008 and served as chairman of the board until 2014.

Nation

Colin Powell dies at 84

WASHINGTON (AP)—Colin Powell, the trailblazing soldier and diplomat whose sterling reputation of service to Republican and Democratic presidents was stained by his faulty claims to justify the 2003 U.S. war in Iraq, died Monday of COVID-19 complications. He was 84.

AP

In this Sept. 25, 1991, file photo, Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington, at a House Armed Services subcommittee.

A veteran of the Vietnam War, Powell spent 35 years in the Army and rose to the rank of four-star general before becoming the first Black chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His oversight of the U.S. invasion of Kuwait to oust the Iraqi army in 1991 made him a household name, prompting speculation for nearly a decade that he might run for president, a course he ultimately decided against.

He instead joined President George W. Bush's administration in 2001 as secretary of state, the first Black person to represent the U.S. government on the world stage. Powell's tenure, however, was marred by his 2003 address to the United Nations Security Council in which he cited faulty information to claim that Saddam Hussein had secretly stashed weapons of mass destruction. Such weapons never materialized, and though the Iraqi leader was removed, the war devolved into years of military and humanitarian losses.

Powell was fully vaccinated against the coronavirus, his family said. But he faced several ailments, telling Washington Post journalist Bob Woodward over the summer that he had Parkinson's disease. Powell's longtime aide, Peggy Cifrino, said Monday that he was also treated over the past few years for multiple myeloma, a blood cancer that impairs the body's ability to fight infection. Studies have shown that those cancer patients don't get as much protection from the COVID-19 vaccines as healthier people.

In a Washington where partisan divisions run deep, Democrats and Republicans recalled Powell fondly. Flags were ordered lowered at government buildings, including the White House, Pentagon and State Department.

President Joe Biden said Powell "embodied the highest ideals of both warrior and diplomat."

Noting Powell's rise from a childhood in a fraying New York City neighborhood, Biden said: "He believed in the promise of America because he lived it. And he devoted much of his life to making that promise a reality for so many others."

Powell's time as secretary of state was largely defined by the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. He was the first American official to publicly blame Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. He made a lightning trip to Pakistan to demand that then-Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf cooperate with the United States in going after the Afghanistan-based group, which also had a presence in Pakistan, where bin Laden was later killed.

Train riders held up phones as woman was raped

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A man charged with raping a woman on a commuter train just outside of Philadelphia harassed her for more than 40 minutes while multiple people held up their phones to seemingly record the assault without intervening, authorities said.

More than two dozen train stops passed as the man harassed, groped and eventually raped the woman, the police chief for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority said at a news conference Monday.

Police do not believe a single witness on the train dialed 911. They are investigating whether some bystanders filmed the assault.

Both the man and woman got on the train at the same stop Wednesday night in North Philadelphia. Officers pulled the man off of the woman at the last stop. They responded within about three minutes of a 911 call from a transportation authority employee, authorities said.

"What we want is everyone to be angry and disgusted and to be resolute about making the system safer," SEPTA Police Chief Thomas J. Nestel III said at the news conference.

Arrest records show Fiston Ngoy, 35, was charged with rape and related offenses.

The affidavit of arrest for Ngoy detailed times of the assault, including that during those 40 minutes the woman appears to repeatedly push Ngoy away.

Nestel would not give an approximate number of witnesses and it was unclear from the affidavit how many passengers were present for those 40 minutes. Authorities have not released the surveillance video.

"I can tell you that people were holding their phone up in the direction of this woman being attacked," he said.

Elizabeth Jeglic, a psychology professor at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, researches sexual violence prevention. She said if people feel uncomfortable physically intervening, there are other options like calling the police.

"When we have multiple people, people don't necessarily intervene," she said. "However, more recent research actually suggests that looking at video footage of more extreme circumstances that up to 90% of cases we do see people intervening. So it was actually somewhat of an aberration in this case that somebody did not step forward to help this individual."

Superintendent Timothy Bernhardt, of the Upper Darby Police Department, has said surveillance footage showed other riders were on the train and someone "should have done something." Messages for Bernhardt were left Monday.

Asia

People visit a pop-up vaccination site, Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2021, in suburban Auckland, New Zealand. AP

New Zealand hits virus high, pushes vaccines as way out

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—New Zealand counted its most new coronavirus cases of the pandemic Tuesday as an outbreak in its largest city grew and officials urged vaccinations as a way out of Auckland's two-month lockdown.

Health officials found 94 new local infections, eclipsing the 89 that were reported twice during the early days of the pandemic 18 months ago. Most of the new cases were in Auckland, but seven were found in the nearby Waikato district.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said lockdown rule-breakers were contributing to the spread of infections and noted that many of the new cases had been detected among younger people.

"I know the highs and lows of cases is incredibly hard on people, particularly those in Tamaki Makaurau," Ardern said, using the Indigenous Maori name for Auckland. "I just wanted to reinforce again that we're not powerless. We do have the ability to keep cases as low as we can."

New Zealand had successfully eliminated earlier outbreaks by imposing tough border controls and strict lockdowns, as well as aggressive contact-tracing and isolating those who were infectious. But the approach failed against the more transmissible delta variant. The government has since eased some of Auckland's lockdown rules, allowing more people to return to work.

Ardern has also embarked on an all-out effort to get people vaccinated. That's included a televised "Vaxathon" festival on Saturday which saw a record 130,000 people getting shots, more than 2% of the New Zealand's population of 5 million.

Ardern has promised to outline a path out of lockdown for Auckland based on vaccination numbers.

The government has previously talked about the importance of getting 90% of people aged 12 and over fully vaccinated, including a high proportion of Maori, who have been particularly hard hit by the outbreak.

But that goal remains some distance away, with 85% of eligible people having had at least one dose and 67% fully vaccinated. The numbers are lower among Maori.

Professor Michael Baker, an epidemiologist at the University of Otago, said he was concerned that contact tracers in Auckland would soon become overwhelmed. He said lawmakers needed to consider temporarily reimposing stricter lockdown rules as a circuit breaker.

ASIA BRIEFS

Thailand hit with more flooding amid heavy rains

BANGKOK (AP)—Heavy rains in central and northeastern Thailand caused new flooding on Monday, with authorities forced to release water into an already swollen river after a reservoir reached full capacity, and others facing the same possibility. Authorities in the central province of Suphan Buri said flood warnings were in effect for communities along the Tha Chin River after water was released into it from the Krasiao reservoir. More than 38,000 households have been affected by flooding in the province so far this year, according to the Suphan Buri governor's office.

Seoul says North Korea tested possible submarine missile

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea on Tuesday fired at least one ballistic missile into the sea in what South Korea's military described as a weapon likely designed for submarine-based launches, marking one of the most significant demonstrations of the North's military might since President Joe Biden took office. The South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said it detected the North firing one short-range ballistic missile it presumed as an SLBM from waters near the eastern port of Sinpo, and that the South Korean and U.S. militaries were closely analyzing the launch. The South Korean military said the launch was made at sea, but it didn't elaborate whether it was fired from a vessel submerged underwater or another launch platform above the sea's surface.

Hindus denounce violence amid attacks in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Protests continued Monday in Bangladesh's capital to denounce a wave of violence against Hindus following an image posted on social media that was perceived as insulting to the country's Muslim majority. New attacks took place Sunday night in a northern village, where unidentified people burned up to 26 homes of Hindus despite a warning by the government that such attacks would be firmly punished. The violence has prompted the United Nations to urge the government to take actions to stop it.

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Russia's virus infections over 8 million; daily deaths high

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia's total number of coronavirus infections has topped 8 million, more than 5% of the population, and the daily infection toll hit a new record. The national coronavirus task force said Monday that 34,325 new infections over the past day raised the pandemic total to 8,027,012. It also said 998 people died of COVID-19 in the previous day, bringing the total number of deaths to 224,310—the highest virus death toll in Europe. The daily death toll is minutely lower than the record 1,002 tallied on Saturday, but shows that Russia is still struggling with the virus as vaccination rates remain low. Russian authorities have tried to speed up the pace of vaccinations with lotteries, bonuses and other incentives, but widespread vaccine skepticism and conflicting signals from officials have stymied the efforts. The task force said Monday that about 45 million Russians, or 32% of the country's nearly 146 million people, are fully vaccinated.

Protest strike shuts down Haiti amid search for missionaries

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—A protest strike shuttered businesses, schools and public transportation in a new blow to Haiti's anemic economy, and unions and other groups vowed to continue the shutdown Tuesday in anger over worsening crime as authorities try to rescue 17 kidnapped members of a U.S.-based missionary group. FBI agents and other U.S. officials are helping Haitian authorities hunt for the 12 adults and five children linked to the Christian Aid Ministries in Ohio who were kidnapped Saturday during a trip to visit an orphanage. It is the largest reported kidnapping of its kind in recent years, with Haitian gangs growing more brazen and abductions spiking as the country tries to recover from the July 7 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse and a magnitude 7.2 earthquake that struck southern Haiti on Aug. 14 and killed more than 2,200 people.

Ecuador's president decrees state of emergency over crime

QUITO, Ecuador (AP)—President Guillermo Lasso decreed a state of emergency Monday to confront drug trafficking and other crimes in Ecuador, saying the military and police will take to the streets to provide security. In a national broadcast, the president said that "there is only one enemy: drug trafficking." He pointed out that Ecuador has gone from being a trafficking zone to one that also consumes drugs. "This is not only reflected in the amount of drugs consumed in our country, but in the number of crimes that today have a direct or indirect relationship with the sale of narcotics," he said. Lasso said drug trafficking has brought an increase in homicides, burglaries of homes, thefts of vehicles and goods, and robberies of people.

Mexico City brings charges against 10 in subway collapse

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico City prosecutors announced Monday they have brought criminal charges against 10 "individuals and companies" for construction and design defects that caused an elevated subway line to collapse in May, killing 26 people. Ulises Lara, the spokesman for the city attorney general, said the charges are for negligent or involuntary homicide, damages and causing injuries. Lara did not name those charged, in keeping with presumption of innocence rules. But local media reported they included former city officials responsible when the subway line was built more than a decade ago. Lara said that no arrest warrants were issued for those involved and that they would be told to appear before a judge at the initial hearing in the case, scheduled for Oct. 25.

6 people, including 1 American, slain at ranch in Costa Rica

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)—Six people, including a U.S. man, were killed in what may have been a robbery at the American's ranch in Costa Rica, the national detectives' agency said Monday. The agency identified the American as Steve Sandusky, but did not offer a U.S. hometown for him. It said Sandusky was a resident of Costa Rica and owned the ranch in Puntarenas province south of San Jose, the capital. The ranch is about 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) from the nearest public road. The other five victims are believed to be Costa Rican nationals who Sandusky had asked to come to the ranch to repair agricultural machinery, authorities said. Their families lost contact with them Sunday and went to the ranch to look for them. The dead include a man, his wife and their 20-year-old son. The bodies of Sandusky and one other victim had been burned; a third had been doused in fuel but not burned. All appeared to have been shot.

Hezbollah leader declares his group has 100,000 fighters

BEIRUT (AP)—Lebanon's Hezbollah leader declared for the first time on Monday that his powerful militant group has 100,000 trained fighters. His speech appeared to be meant as a deterrent to domestic foes following the nation's worst internal violence in years. Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah disclosed the size of the Shiite group's militant arm in his first speech since seven people were killed in gunbattles on the streets of Beirut on Thursday—the worst street violence the city has seen in years. The confrontation erupted over a long-running probe into last year's massive port blast in the city. It is difficult to verify the 100,000 fighters figure as Hezbollah is largely secretive. If true, it would be larger than the size of Lebanon's armed forces, estimated at about 85,000. The speech came at a time of heightened tension in Lebanon over the clashes and the course of the investigation into the Aug. 4, 2020 blast in which over 215 people were killed.

Russia suspends its mission at NATO, shuts alliance's office

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia on Monday suspended its mission at NATO and ordered the closure of the alliance's office in Moscow in retaliation for NATO's expulsion of Russian diplomats. Earlier this month, NATO withdrew the accreditation of eight Russian officials to its Brussels headquarters, saying it believes they have been secretly working as Russian intelligence officers. NATO also halved the size of Moscow's team at its headquarters from 20 to 10. Moscow has dismissed the accusations as baseless. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov delivered Moscow's response Monday, announcing the suspension of Russia's mission at NATO and the closure of the alliance's military liaison and information offices in the Russian capital. He charged that the alliance's action has confirmed that "NATO isn't interested in any kind of equal dialogue or joint work," adding that "we don't see any need to keep pretending that there could be any shift in the foreseeable future." Lavrov added that contacts between the Western military alliance and Russia could be maintained through the Russian Embassy in Belgium.

Good Housekeeping

Pretty in pink

By CATHY HOBBS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Pink is a versatile color that can be muted, bold or bright. It can also be gender-neutral and perfect for a host of applications, from social areas such as living rooms to child-friendly spaces.

Why pink?

Pink is a color that comes in a myriad of shades and can easily be paired with other colors. Pink mixed with gray becomes more of a mauve, while pink mixed with white becomes more of a powder pink. Deep shades like hot pink can be used to add a bold pop of color.

Looking for ways to incorporate pink into your home? Here are some top tips.

DO'S

1. Do use pink as an accent color.
2. Do pair pink with foundation colors such as white, black, gray and even chocolate brown.
3. Do pair pink with citrus colors such as yellow and orange.
4. Do use pink in various rooms of the home such as social areas spaces to child-friendly spaces.
5. Do use artwork to incorporate hues of pink into a space.

DON'TS

1. Don't use too many different shades of pink in the same space.
2. Don't be afraid to use pink as an accent wall color.
3. Don't overlook the opportunity to use pink as portable decor, such as throws and toss pillows.
4. Don't omit opportunities to bring pink into a space using hints of color such as small accessories, books, florals and blooms.
5. Don't use shades of pink that are too soft or muted. Choose colors that are distinct and visible within your decor space.

Life & Style

Artist recruits 300 for nude photo near Dead Sea in Israel

AP

People pose nude for American artist Spencer Tunick as he uses a megaphone to direct an installation in the desert near the Dead Sea in Arad, Israel, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021.

JERUSALEM (AP)—Some 300 male and female volunteers stripped naked and donned white body paint for an artistic installation meant to draw attention to the shrinking Dead Sea.

They posed Sunday for the American photographer Spencer Tunick, who has done similar installations in other exotic locales around the world, including French wine country, a Swiss glacier and a beach in South Africa. The shoot was promoted by Israel's Tourism Ministry.

"My visit to Israel was an experience for me and I am always happy to return here and photograph in the only country in the Middle East that allows art such as this," Tunick said. He did an earlier installation at the Dead Sea in 2011.

The volunteers gathered in the early afternoon on Sunday. They disrobed and smeared their bodies with white paint in the desert outside the Israeli city of Arad. The shoot lasted around three hours, with the artist positioning the volunteers and the camera.

Organizers hope the installation will draw attention to the importance of preserving the Dead Sea. The salty body of water at the earth's lowest point has been steadily shrinking in recent decades as Israel and its neighbors have diverted upstream water sources for agriculture.

The Tourism Ministry said it hoped the artistic installation would draw visitors to the area. Israel has been largely closed off to foreign travelers since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic but is gradually welcoming back vaccinated visitors as its caseload declines.

Disney delays 'Indiana Jones 5,' 'Black Panther 2' releases

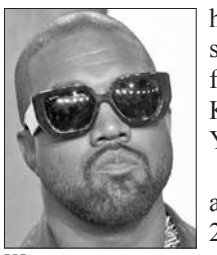
LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Walt Disney Co. is pushing back the release dates of many of its upcoming titles, including the untitled Indiana Jones movie and the Black Panther sequel "Wakanda Forever."

The company said Monday that the fifth Indiana Jones, a James Mangold-directed and Steven Spielberg-produced installment which sees the return of Harrison Ford as the adventurous archaeologist, will be delayed almost a year and open in theaters in June 2023.

"Black Panther: Wakanda Forever" has also been pushed several months, from July 2022 to November 2022. Both films are currently in production.

Other Marvel titles like "Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness," "Thor: Love and Thunder," "The Marvels" and "Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania" were also all delayed several months.

Rapper formerly known as Kanye West is now just Ye



West

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kanye is now Ye.

A Los Angeles judge on Monday approved the request of the rapper, producer and fashion designer to legally change his name from Kanye Omari West to just Ye, with no middle or last name.

"There being no objections, the petition for change of name is granted," Judge Michelle Williams Court said in court documents.

The petition filed Aug. 24 cited "personal reasons."

He has called himself Ye on his social media pages for years. He tweeted in 2018 that he wanted the change saying, "the being formally known as Kanye West. I am YE."

The moniker was also the title of his 2018 album. He has said in interviews that, along with being a shortening of his first name he likes, that it's a word used throughout the Bible.

The 44-year-old is in the middle of a divorce with Kim Kardashian West, who did not ask that her last name be changed back to just Kardashian when she filed to split from him in February. The couple's four children also have his former last name.

Street musician stunned by John Legend as she sings his hit

BOSTON (AP)—A street musician who performed a rendition of John Legend's hit "All of Me" in Boston over the weekend had one particularly appreciative audience member—John Legend.

The Grammy Award winning singer was visiting Faneuil Hall with his family before his show Sunday night in Boston when he came across Radha Rao performing the hit song, The Boston Globe reported.

Legend was impressed. He gave Rao a hug and a tip.

Rao, 22, didn't recognize him at first. He was wearing a mask and she didn't even know he was in town. Then he took it off.

"What are the odds that John Legend is in town, in the area you're performing, as you're singing his song? Beyond believable," she said.

McCartney, Swift to induct new members into rock hall

NEW YORK (AP)—Paul McCartney and Taylor Swift will induct newcomers into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame during its annual ceremony, set for Cleveland on Oct. 30.

McCartney will give the presentation for Foo Fighters, the hall announced on Monday. He's close to Foo Fighter frontman Dave Grohl, who after next week will share the distinction of being inducted twice. McCartney's in as a Beatle and solo artist, while Grohl joined as a member of Nirvana in 2014.

Swift will induct songwriter Carole King, and also perform some of her music, along with Jennifer Hudson.

Angela Bassett, who portrayed Tina Turner in the movie "What's Love Got to Do With It?", will induct the singer. Christina Aguilera, Mickey Guyton, H.E.R. and Bryan Adams are scheduled to perform tributes to Turner.

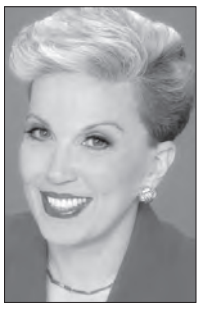
Another actor, Drew Barrymore, has been enlisted to induct the Go-Go's. Lionel Richie will speak in honor of music executive Clarence Avant.

Other inductees this year include Jay-Z, Todd Rundgren, Kraftwerk, Charlie Patton, Gil Scott-Heron, LL Cool J, Billy Preston and Randy Rhoads. Presenters weren't announced for them on Monday.

Aunt ready to offer advice to childless niece

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: My niece "Jane" is married to "John," who doesn't want children. Before she met John, Jane always loved children. She says he was traumatized by the toxic relationship between his parents and their subsequent divorce. John's father told him often that he and his siblings caused the divorce.

John refuses to have a vasectomy, despite the fact he doesn't want children, and insists that Jane use an IUD to prevent a pregnancy. I think it's the height of selfishness. Three of my closest friends married men who didn't want children. After age 40, they were all divorced. The men then went off, married younger women and all of them have several children. My girlfriends express extreme bitterness over being childless.

Abby, I'm afraid Jane will meet this same fate. Should I talk to her about my concerns? And what do you think about John's unwillingness to get a vasectomy?

DISAGREEING IN DALLAS

DEAR DISAGREEING: What John's father did by denying his own part in his divorce and placing the blame on his children was unconscionable. It was also a lie. Children do not cause divorces—their parents do.

If you want to maintain a close relationship with your beloved niece, you should not only NOT meddle in her marriage, but also keep your nose out of their sex life. John may be unwilling to have a vasectomy not because he is selfish, but because he is afraid of the pain (the procedure is not painless) or because he mistakenly fears it will make him "less of a man." But, ultimately, he should take the necessary steps to prevent a pregnancy, because he's the one who wants to remain childless.

DEAR ABBY: As were most kids of the '80s, I was raised to think drugs are bad. Now, however, I live in a state where marijuana is legal. My job doesn't allow me to partake, nor do I have any interest in doing it.

The problem is I invited my on-again, off-again long-distance boyfriend to visit. He says he has every intention of getting high, despite knowing my stance and discomfort. He says marijuana helped him recover from surgery and helps him sleep, and he just wants to get high. We clearly have two different opinions that will likely never be the same.

He's my best friend and the easiest person for me to talk to. Is there any hope for us or should we go back to being strictly friends? He said I can retract my invitation to visit if I choose. Do I allow him to visit and get high, or move on? I just don't understand the lure of marijuana.

CONFUSED IN COLORADO

DEAR CONFUSED: I'm not going to use this forum to debate the pleasures or the perils of marijuana. If your on-again, off-again boyfriend is unwilling or unable to respect your wishes, recognize that what is a small problem now may take on larger proportions as you continue your involvement with him. Much has been written about marijuana, both pro and con. If you haven't already done so, it might benefit you to go online and read some of the current research. After that, if you still feel as strongly as you do, retract the invitation.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

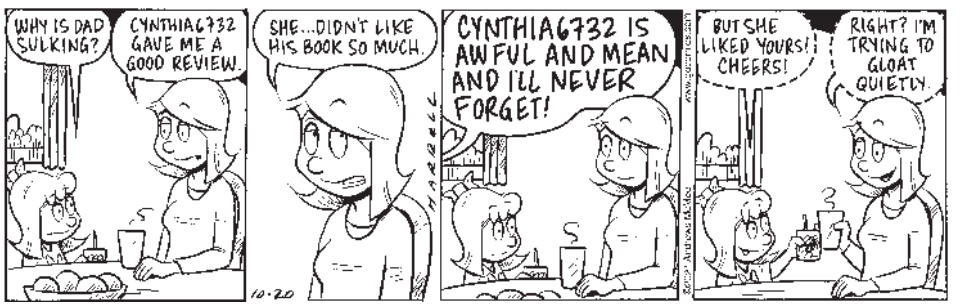
YOU'RE ON MY HALF OF THE BED! MOVE OVER!
YOUR SIDE IS WAY OVER THERE! GIVE ME BACK THOSE COVERS!
CALVIN, BE QUIET AND GO TO SLEEP!!
YOU HEARD DAD. HE SAID TO GET ON YOUR SIDE AND LEAVE THE COVERS ALONE!
THAT'S NOT WHAT HE SAID! HEY! YOU STOLE MY PILLOW! THIS LUMPY ONE IS YOURS!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

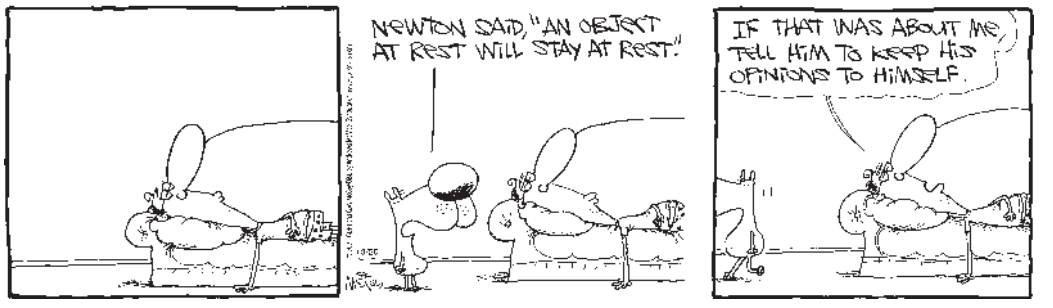
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHY IS DAD SULKING?
CYNTHIA6732 GAVE ME A GOOD REVIEW.
SHE...DIDN'T LIKE HIS BOOK SO MUCH.
CYNTHIA6732 IS AWFUL AND MEAN AND I'LL NEVER FORGET!
BUT SHE LIKED YOURS! CHEERS!
RIGHT? I'M TRYING TO GLOAT QUIETLY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

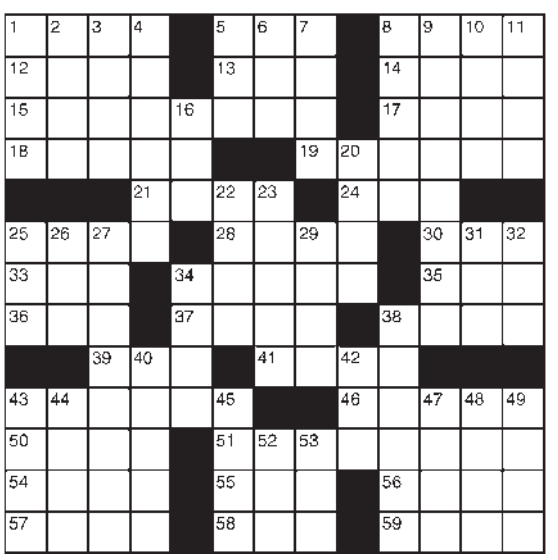
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Big gulp
5 Speed (up)
8 Grade-school basics
12 Surprised greeting
13 Flamenco cheer
14 Missile shelter
15 TV studio prop
17 Pre-weekend cry
18 Sufficient
19 On time
21 Rams fans?
24 Buddy
25 Arrears
28 Exotic berry
30 Roswell sighting
33 Eggs
34 Milky Way points
35 Patient's need, briefly
36 Spider's home
37 Gomer Pyle's org.
38 Close
39 Hankering
41 Excellent, in slang
43 Harm
46 Sudden attacks
50 Wax-coated cheese
51 Reduced-rate postal delivery
54 Hobbling
55 Exist
56 Waffle brand
57 You love (Lat.)
58 Feminine principle
59 Proboscis

DOWN
1 Japanese noodles
2 "For — the Bell Tolls"
3 Denny's rival
4 Vodka cocktail
5 King, in Cannes
6 Wapiti
7 Prez's backup
8 John Jacob —
9 Blabbing type
10 Film fragment
11 Cushy
16 Kitten's cry
20 Baseball stats
22 Takes courses?
23 Rascal
25 Part of DJIA
26 First lady?
27 2008 Tina Fey rom-com
29 Foot part
31 Winter ailment
32 Calendar abbr.
34 Crooned
38 Flower part
40 Chair designer
42 Noah's boat
43 Crème — crème
44 Comic Sandler
45 Online auction site
47 "Othello" villain
48 Really enjoys
49 — gin fizz
52 Mentalist Geller
53 Author Deighton

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alona Tal, 38; John Krasinski, 42; Snoop Dogg, 50; Viggo Mortensen, 63.

Happy Birthday: Keep the peace. Your strength is in your ability to offer equality and suggestions that are reasonable. Show discipline in the way you budget and run your household, and you'll avoid an unpredictable financial situation. A meaningful relationship with someone special will encourage positive lifestyle changes. Romance and commitment will lead to stability and contentment. Your numbers are 5, 11, 19, 28, 31, 37, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Set your sights on what you want, and don't stop until you are satisfied. Make a promise to someone you love, and you will receive the support you require to reach an important milestone. Put health, joint endeavors and finances first. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Don't stumble when precision and detail are required. Put a safety net in place, and proceed with confidence. Keep moderation in mind, and display what you want to do in simple terms. Getting your point across will require patience and understanding. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Put your energy where it counts. You'll gain recognition for what you accomplish, not what you neglect to finish. An opportunity to use your skills and your intelligence at a networking event will help you sell what you have to offer. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Lean on someone who has shared and relied on you for support. The assistance you receive will encourage a unique relationship to help you overcome any adversity you face. The chance to make apositive move looks hopeful. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Recognize the changes going on around you, and gravitate toward what makes you feel comfortable. Home improvements will pay off and offer the freedom to make positive adjustments that suit your financial needs. Romance will bring you closer to someone you love. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take good care of domestic matters and your physical well-being. Don't get into an emotional tiff with a friend or relative. Keep the peace and go about your business. Concentrate on self-improvement, not trying to change others. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't limit yourself because of a decision someone made. Finish what you set out to do. Personal growth and self-improvement will be good and give you a unique perspective on what's possible. Trust and believe in your ability to thrive. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Refuse to let uncertainty be your downfall. Research, develop and formulate what you are trying to achieve, and map out a path that will take you from where you are to where you want to be. Make decisions based on your needs. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Focus on efficiency and getting along with those you live or work alongside. Don't let an outsider interfere with your plans. Be specific about what you want and how you expect to reach your target. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Elaborate, leave nothing to chance and choose your battles wisely. Emotions will surface, causing disputes if you don't play fair. If you want something, offer incentives and prepare to live up to your promises, and do your part. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put on your happy, optimistic face, and charge forward with enthusiasm. Your attitude will make a difference when faced with controversy or opposition. Know what you want, and drum up the excitement that will encourage support. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Play to win when dealing with challenging situations. Use your insight and unique outlook to outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Take the necessary precautions when in crowded areas or unfamiliar settings. Protect your money, passwords and personal prop erty. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, optimistic and resourceful. You are charming and well-liked.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					8	6	1	3
	3	7		2			9	
	6		9			5		
		4			2			
	1				7			
3			6	4		1		
7		1			5		3	6
9	8					7	2	
5						8		

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/20

Yesterday's Answer

8	3	2	6	1	9	5	7	4
9	6	1	5	7	4	3	2	8
7	5	4	8	3	2	6	9	1
2	9	6	7	8	3	1	4	5
3	7	5	4	6	1	2	8	9
1	4	8	9	2	5	7	3	6
4	1	9	3	5	7	8	6	2
5	8	3	2	9	6	4	1	7
6	2	7	1	4	8	9	5	3

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ABX AIR — Solution: 9 letters

D	I	E	G	A	L	E	S	U	F	S	L	A	T	S
R	E	T	G	N	I	E	O	B	R	A	P	I	D	R
N	E	P	A	M	A	F	D	E	C	K	E	R	T	E
G	M	Z	A	N	T	E	M	O	E	L	E	U	F	P
I	U	I	I	R	N	O	L	N	M	D	R	A	A	A
S	M	R	A	L	T	I	T	U	D	E	S	R	R	O
L	I	N	E	S	I	U	C	U	D	Ⓦ	S	Y	C	S
L	X	Y	U	L	C	B	R	N	E	Ⓔ	I	T	R	P
A	A	C	T	K	I	D	A	E	I	Ⓡ	H	I	I	A
C	M	I	Y	P	M	A	R	T	L	Ⓒ	N	C	A	C
A	A	F	L	G	M	V	B	H	S	I	A	T	S	K
R	E	E	L	E	T	E	E	L	F	K	O	S	R	A
G	T	C	H	A	R	T	E	R	E	R	L	P	E	G
O	T	O	L	I	P	O	P	E	R	A	T	E	S	E
P	A	L	L	E	T	S	N	S	U	P	P	O	R	T

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Yesterday's Answer: Drums Master

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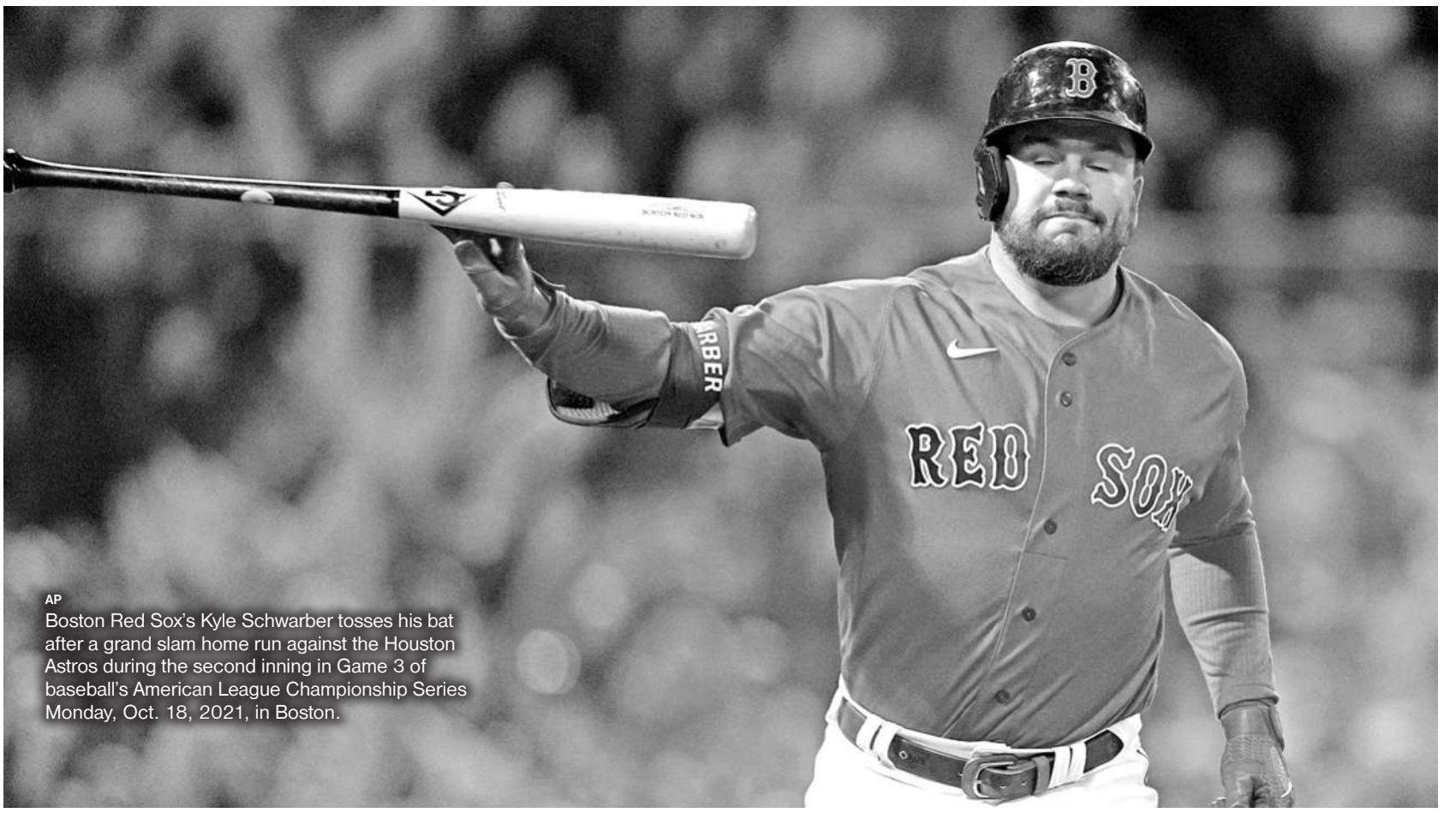
Schwarber, Red Sox slam Astros 12-3, lead ALCS 2-1



AP
Boston Red Sox's Kyle Schwarber tosses his bat after a grand slam home run against the Houston Astros during the second inning in Game 3 of baseball's American League Championship Series Monday, Oct. 18, 2021, in Boston.

BOSTON (AP)—Boston Red Sox starter Eduardo Rodriguez walked off the mound with a six-run lead and a message for Carlos Correa and the rest of the Houston Astros:

Now it's Boston's time.

Tapping his wrist to mimic Correa's Game 1 celebration, Rodriguez rode four more Boston homers - including Kyle Schwarber's record-setting grand slam—to a 12-3 victory Monday night as the Red Sox took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven AL Championship Series.

The taunt drew a rebuke from Red Sox manager Alex Cora, who reminded his pitcher that they still need two more wins to advance to the World Series for the fifth time since 2004. Games 4 and 5 are at Fenway Park on Tuesday night and Wednesday.

"It's not that I'm mad at him," said Cora, who was celebrating his 46th birthday. "We don't act that way. We just show up, we play, and we move on."

One game after J.D. Martinez and Rafael Devers each hit grand slams, Schwarber hit a second-inning 3-0 pitch 430 feet into the right field grandstand.

Boston is the first team ever with three slams in a postseason series.

"Electrifying. It's unbelievable," outfielder Alex Verdugo said. "You can have a big swing and get four runs in on just that one play—it's huge.

"It's one of the best plays in baseball, man. You give up a grand slam, it takes a lot out of you," he added. "And just to kind of keep stepping on their neck and adding the pressure, it's huge."

Martinez and Devers each homered again, Christian Arroyo also hit one, and Enrique Javier "Kike" Hernández had two more hits for Boston, which opened 9-0 leads and coasted to victory in back-to-back games. Right fielder Hunter Renfroe ended it with a diving catch of Correa's sinking line drive.

"They count as one (loss)," Astros manager Dusty Baker said. "We come back and win tomorrow and the series is even. You don't like it tonight, but you come back in the morning."

Rodriguez gave up five hits, including Kyle Tucker's three-run homer, and struck out seven. He retired Correa to end the sixth and let the Astros shortstop know that his gesture in Game 1 was not appreciated.

Cora chastised Rodriguez before giving him a hug when he reached the dugout.

"He just told me 'Don't do that,'" said Rodriguez, who said he would apologize to Correa if he sees him. "It was something that was part of the moment. But (Cora) just told me, 'We don't do that here. Stay humble. Just go out there and play hard every time."

"Besides that," Cora said, "he was outstanding."

Correa said he "loved every single bit of it."

"It's just the way baseball should trend, moving forward," he added. "You need to let the players have fun."

Boston matched a franchise record with its seventh straight postseason win at home. The Red Sox had 11 hits in all, becoming the first team in major league history to reach double digits six straight times in a single postseason.

Hernández, who has 18 hits during the playoffs and is batting .500—both leading the majors—left the game after six innings.

Asked why, Cora said with a smile: 'œHe has been running the bases a lot in the last few days, or weeks, or whatever."

The Red Sox capitalized on two Astros errors and the struggles of Houston starter José Luis Urquidy, who gave up six runs, five earned, on five hits and two walks, striking out one in 1 2/3 innings.

Rodriguez, who missed all of last season with COVID-related heart problems, retired the first six batters before running into the trouble in the third, when Tucker made it 9-3.

His outing enabled Cora to keep Nick Pivetta fresh for a Game 4 start.

To the delight of the Fenway fans, who targeted him with profane chants for his role in the Astros 2017 cheating scandal, Jose Altuve struggled at the plate and in the field.

A Gold Glove and AL MVP-winner, the three-time batting champion went 0 for 4 and let Arroyo's chopper bounce off his chest for an error with the bases loaded in the second inning. One batter later, Schwarber hit Boston's third grand slam in 11 innings.

The Red Sox, who only had three grand slams during the regular season, matched the 1998 Atlanta Braves as the only clubs to hit three in a single postseason. Boston has 20 homers this postseason, matching the 2004 Astros for the most through the first eight games of the playoffs, per MLB.com.

Altuve also waved at a throw from Martín Maldonado on Hunter Renfroe's stolen base in the third; the error went to the catcher. The throw to third was also wild, but the Astros were saved another error when the ball missed the dugout and bounced off the padding back toward the field.

Down 2-0, Dodgers have Braves where they want them at home

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Trailing 2-0 in the NL Championship Series, the Los Angeles Dodgers have the Atlanta Braves right where they want them. At their house.

The Braves' last win at Dodger Stadium was June 9, 2018. They've lost nine straight in Los Angeles, getting swept in a three-game series in late August and were shut out twice in the 2018 NL Division Series.

Going back to the 2013 NLDS, the Braves have dropped 19 of their last 22 in LA.

The Dodgers were an MLB-best 58-23 at home, ending the regular season on franchise-record 15-game winning streak at Chavez Ravine. But as a wild-card team, they don't have home-field advantage in the NL playoffs despite 106 wins.

"We're back home," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said Monday. "We expect to win Game 3."

The series resumes Tuesday at Dodger Stadium. Los Angeles is a 3-2 favorite, according to FanDuel Sportsbook.

"They're just really good here, really good," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "It's fun to come out here. Dodger Stadium is an electric place and the weather's nice."

Charlie Morton (0-1, 3.86 ERA in the postseason) starts for the Braves. Walker Buehler (0-1, 3.38), a 16-game winner in the regular season, takes the mound for the Dodgers.

"If the baseball sayings are right, you're only as good as your next day's starting pitcher," All-Star pitcher Max Scherzer said, "and so we got Walk going on the mound and we definitely believe we can win with him. Our mindset is just win the next game."

Buehler will start on two extra days' rest after opening Game 4 of the NLDS on short rest a week ago.

"I got a little sick in San Francisco, but I'm feeling all right, so no worse for the wear," he said Monday, declining to specify what or how he felt ill.

The Cy Young Award contender has proven to be reliable in big games, with a 2.50 ERA in 13 postseason starts.

"With Walker being on extra rest, I think to have him, to push him, go deeper is certainly a very good option," Roberts said.

The Dodgers expect to have Justin Turner back at third base. He was reduced to pinch-hitting in Game 2 because of a neck injury, ending his streak of 77 consecutive postseason starts. He's struggled at the plate in the postseason, hitting .050 against San Francisco in the NLDS.

The Dodgers have been down before against Atlanta. Playing last postseason at a neutral site in Texas, they overcame a 1-3 deficit to beat the Braves in the NLCS. LA went on to win its first World Series championship since 1988.

After last year, the 88-win Braves aren't taking anything for granted.

"It's like one of those things where you can't stop now, you got to continue to apply the pressure," said third baseman Austin Riley, whose RBI single won Game 1.

Snitker added, "With a year's experience and in the same position these guys are better versed for it right now."

Game 4 is Wednesday and a possible Game 5 the following day, cutting out any rest for the bullpen and seemingly making it harder for the Dodgers to use their starters in relief, as they did in the first two games.

"Things just aren't, can't be scripted. You've got to kind of sometimes go off-script to what we feel, what I feel is the best chance to win a game, let alone a particular series," Roberts said. "A decision that doesn't work out doesn't mean it's the wrong decision."

The Dodgers will go with a bullpen game either Wednesday or possibly Thursday, with 20-game winner Julio Urías pitching one of those two days. Max Scherzer would start a potential Game 6 back in Atlanta, Roberts said.

The Dodgers are 1 for 18 with runners in scoring position and they had six runs and 14 hits in the first two games.

Still, both came down to the bottom of the ninth.

"I don't need numbers to see, to know what I see," Roberts said, "and if we're going to chase, then there's no reason for him to throw the ball in the strike zone. We've got to kind of lock in more in the strike zone and when we do that we'll have more success."

The Dodgers' big hitters — Corey Seager, NL batting champion Trea Turner and Mookie Betts—have yet to get going. The team hit 237 homers—fourth-best in the majors—during the regular season, but has just seven in this postseason.

"I think in this in that particular instance it's an approach thing," Roberts said. "It's an approach thing and I think that certain times in scoring position we're expanding too much."

The Braves made history as just the second team ever to win the first two games of a League Championship Series on walk-offs, joining the 1969 Baltimore Orioles. Historically, teams that take a 2-0 lead in a best-of-seven postseason major league series go on to win the series 84% of the time.

Along with his teammates, Atlanta slugger Freddie Freeman will be looking to reset in LA. He's 0 for 8 in the series, striking out seven times.

"He can get hot at any moment," Roberts said.

Titans stop Allen on 4th down, hang on to beat Bills, 34-31

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— Derrick Henry showed once again how important he is to the Tennessee Titans.

This time, he had help from the Tennessee defense.

Henry scored his third touchdown with 3:05 left, and the Titans stopped Josh Allen on a fourth-down quarterback sneak in the final seconds to beat Buffalo 34-31 on Monday night, snapping the Bills' four-game winning streak.

The AFC East-leading Bills drove to the Titans 3 on their final possession and could have sent the game to overtime with a field goal, but instead went for the win — and didn't execute.

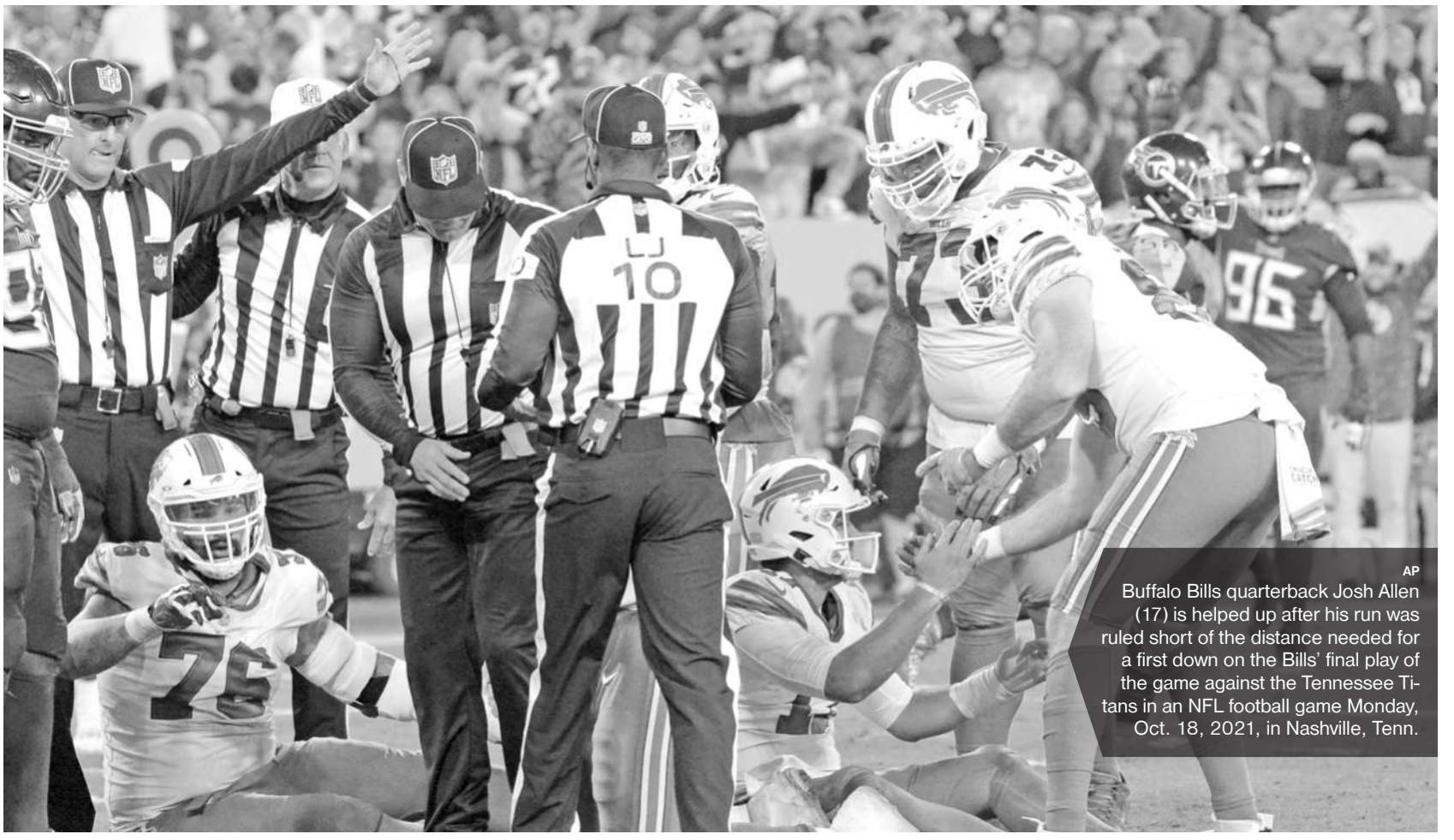
First, Allen was marked shy of the first-down marker on a scramble. On fourth down, the rugged quarterback moved from the shotgun to take the snap under center. Tennessee's defensive line surged forward to meet Allen, whose legs went out from under him before Titans tackle Jeffery Simmons smothered the quarterback.

The Titans (4-2) took over with 12 seconds left to start a much-needed celebration for the battered defending AFC South champs.

"We got some dogs over there," Henry said of Tennessee's defense. "They fight to the end. They showed it right there."

Henry came in as the NFL's rushing leader even with most teams in the league having played six games, and he finished with 143 yards, topping 100 for the fifth consecutive game. It's the longest streak in the NFL since DeMarco Murray had eight straight in 2014 for Dallas.

The 2020 AP Offensive Player of the Year also had a 76-yard TD run and a 3-yarder. His long TD—the first of seven lead changes in the game—came with the Titans trailing 6-0 early in the second thanks to the defense holding the Bills to a pair of early field goals.



AP

Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen (17) is helped up after his run was ruled short of the distance needed for a first down on the Bills' final play of the game against the Tennessee Titans in an NFL football game Monday, Oct. 18, 2021, in Nashville, Tenn.

"We continue to jump on Derrick's back, and he's willing and able to carry us," Titans coach Mike Vrabel said. "And it's just something that you know you have in your back pocket, front pocket. We pull it out and we use it. It just gave us a big shot of life there."

Quarterback Ryan Tannehill added another TD run against a Buffalo defense that came in ranked third against the run.

Harold Landry had two of the Titans' three sacks, and Kevin Byard intercepted a pass.

The Bills (4-2) wanted to go for the win instead of playing for OT, and the fourth down caught Buffalo slightly off guard. Bills coach Sean McDermott said officials initially signaled Allen got the first down on his third-down scramble. McDermott said he talked after the game with referee Clete Blakeman, who told him an official radioed down from the box that Allen had come up short.

"We didn't get it done," McDermott said.

Allen, who had converted an NFL-best 24 quarterback sneaks for first downs since 2018, said he didn't have great footing.

"I was just trying to find a window to get in there, and quarterback sneaks aren't the funnest play by any means," Allen said.

The Bills extended their NFL record of leading at halftime to 15 straight games. But their defense, which came in allowing a league-best 12.8 points a game, gave up a season high in points.

Allen finished with 353 yards and three TDs. His third was a 1-yarder to Tommy Sweeney in the final minute of the third quarter, and Allen caught a pass from tight end Dawson Knox for the 2-point conversion and a 31-24 lead. Buffalo didn't score again.

With his 29-yard TD pass to a wide-open Cole Beasley just before halftime, Allen passed Aaron Rogers with 108 combined TDs in his 49th start. Rogers had 107 TDs for what had been the most by a quarterback in his first 50 starts since the NFL merger.

Henry now has 11 TDs of 50 yards or longer, tying former Titans running back Chris Johnson for fourth-most in NFL history. Only Adrian Peterson (16), Barry Sanders (15) and Jim Brown (12) have more. This TD came on the one-year anniversary of a 94-yard scoring run by Henry.

The Titans dipped back into history for a play that beat the Bills in an AFC wild-card game in January 2000 known as the Music City Miracle. The play was called "Home Run Throw Back" with Frank Wycheck throwing a lateral to Kevin Dyson for the winning touchdown.

This time, Chester Rogers caught a punt late in the first quarter and threw across the field to Chris Jackson. The issue? His pass was a forward pass and not a lateral, costing the Titans a penalty.

This was a costly game for Tennessee. Three-time Pro Bowl left tackle Taylor Lewan was carted from the field and evaluated for a concussion late in the second quarter. Rookie cornerback Caleb Farley, the Titans' top draft pick, had to be helped off the field with an injured left knee he couldn't put weight on.

Receiver Julio Jones, who made an amazing 43-yard catch of a ball that bounced off Micah Hyde's helmet, also hurt a hamstring after missing the last two games. Defensive back Chris Jackson didn't return with an injured foot.

Cameron Batson hurt a knee on a kickoff return just before halftime. Tennessee came into this game with 16 on injured reserve.

For the Bills, Knox hurt his hand and missed the fourth quarter.

Analysis: NFL loaded with mediocre teams 6 weeks into season

By ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Six weeks into the NFL season and each conference has only six teams with a winning record.

A league that prides itself on parity is loaded with mediocre and poor teams.

Five clubs have one win, the Lions are winless and four division races are all but over, barring major injuries to the first-place teams. Even the two-time defending AFC champion Kansas City Chiefs are just 3-3.

At least the race for the No. 1 overall draft pick will be intriguing.

Detroit (0-6) is the front-runner, but Houston, Miami, Jacksonville, the Giants and Jets each have a real shot with only one win.

The Dolphins traded the pick to the Eagles, so they can't even benefit from losing. Miami expected to compete for a playoff spot after finishing 10-6 last year, but the Dolphins have lost five in a row after letting the Jaguars snap a 20-game losing streak on Sunday in London. Passing up Justin Herbert for Tua Tagovailoa may haunt Miami for a decade. They'll need Jaylen Waddle to become a superstar to justify giving up an extra first-rounder to draft him at No. 6.

The Lions may be the best of this bunch despite a 34-11 loss to Cincinnati. They were close to two wins before losing to Baltimore on Justin Tucker's record-setting 66-yard field goal and to Minnesota on a 54-yarder as time expired.

The Texans should be the favorite to finish with the worst record if they stick with rookie Davis Mills when Tyrod Taylor returns. Houston has been outscored by an average margin of 13.3 points per game and still hasn't resolved the Deshaun Watson dilemma.

The Jags had to leave the country to finally earn their first win with Urban Meyer and Trevor Lawrence. Meyer's transition to the NFL hasn't been smooth, but he has a franchise quarterback in Lawrence.

The banged-up Giants keep losing players as the losses pile up. They had no chance against the Rams, who weren't satisfied with a 38-11 rout over New York.

The Jets (1-4) enjoyed their bye more than most of their Sundays.

The East is the least in both the NFC and AFC.

The Cowboys (5-1) have won as many games as Washington (2-4), Philadelphia (2-4) and the Giants combined after rallying for an overtime victory at New England. If Dak Prescott stays healthy — he's scheduled for an MRI on Monday after straining his calf on the winning touchdown pass against the Patriots — Dallas should wrap up the NFC East by Thanksgiving.

Same for Buffalo (4-1) in the AFC East, as long as Josh Allen doesn't go down. The Bills would surpass the combined win total of New England (2-4), Miami and the Jets with a victory at Tennessee on Monday night. The Patriots are 0-4 at home for the first time in Bill Belichick's 22 seasons as coach.

Tampa Bay (5-1) and Green Bay (5-1) each have two-game leads and should cruise to division titles, barring injuries. The defending Super Bowl champion Buccaneers haven't even hit their peak yet. Tampa has been hit hard with injuries, especially in the secondary. Tom Brady is off to an excellent start and the offense still is improving. The Bucs had a weekend off to rest and recover after a 28-22 win at Philadelphia on Thursday that wasn't as close as the score.

Aaron Rodgers and the Packers still own the Bears following a 24-14 victory at Soldier Field. Chicago (3-3) and Minnesota (3-3) aren't in Green Bay's class.

Carolina (3-3) and Denver (3-3) each started 3-0, but they've proven they're not serious contenders after losing three straight.

The AFC South could give both East divisions a run for futility. The Titans (3-2) have a tough matchup Monday night against Buffalo. It'll be a two-team race with Indianapolis (2-4) for the top spot after Carson Wentz looked more like his old self in the Colts' win over Houston. But the division winner should end up with a winning record thanks to four games against the Texans and Jaguars.

The NFL has some elite teams. Arizona is 6-0. Tampa, Green Bay, the Rams and Dallas are 20-4 combined. Injury-depleted Baltimore (5-1) has been impressive, and the Bills made a statement last week routing Kansas City.

But far more clubs have no chance to win much this season.

Lady Tritons open rugby season with rough start

The University of Guam Tritons Women's Rugby Team opened its first matches in the history of the institution today at the UOG Rugby Field but found it tough to score and lost three matches in the opening day of the Lady Triton Women's Rugby Sevens Tournament.

The Tritons opened the morning with a 7-0 loss to the Hybrid club team from the Southern part of Guam. It was a tough defensive struggle throughout the match as both teams were scoreless at half time, but the Hybrid broke through late in second half to score both a touch and an extra point to go up 7-0 and held off the Tritons for the final few minutes to win the match.

In the second match of the day for the UOG squad, they took on the High Performance club, made up of Guam national team members, and while the Lady Tritons battled hard, they found themselves on the short end of a 42-0 score.

In their final match of the day, the UOG squad took on the Para Todu club in the early afternoon and found it tough going, ultimately taking a 32-0 loss.

UOG
Vantaysha Garcia gets tackled during the Tritons' match against High Performance on Oct. 16 at the UOG Rugby Field.

The rest of the scores for the day's matches:

- High Performance 34, Para Todu 0
- Para Todu 14, Hybrids 5
- High Performance 34, Hybrids 7

Team Seeding Standings:

1. High Performance 3-0
2. Para Todu – 2-1
3. Hybrids – 1-2
4. UOG Tritons 0-3

The tournament will conclude next Saturday with the following schedule:

- 10am #1 Seed High Performance vs. #4 Seed UOG Tritons
- 10:30am #2 Seed Para Todu vs. #3 Seed Hybrids
- 11:30am 3rd Place Match-losers of semifinals
- Noon championship-winners of semifinals

All matches will be played at the UOG Rugby Field. No spectators or fans will be allowed inside the playing area. All games will be shown live on the UOG Athletic YouTube Channel. The channel had more than 100 viewers for today's matches. ***(PR)***

END

From Page 20

A total of eight teams battled for supremacy in the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation-organized tournament's men's division. Aside from the two finalists, also suiting up were the Outlaws, Roll'Aces, Tinian Typhoon, D. Cider, The Game, and Hole in the Wall.

The U18 division had six teams signing up, including champion Ol'Aces Real Deal, runner-up Chinatown Chargers, Tinian Typhoon, MadFlex, San Antonio Sixers, and the Rollers' Undercooked Rolls.

The women's division also attracted a bevy teams, among them Acers, Team Agape, Alley-Oops, That One Team, Shammi, Small Giants, Crush-Over, Tinian Typhoon, Gang Gang, and BellaBalls. Results of the NMIBF 3×3 Hoop Fest women's division will be published in tomorrow's issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	203	98
New England	2	4	0	.333	125	127
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0	.200	67	121
Miami	1	5	0	.167	99	177

South

Tennessee	4	2	0	.667	166	161
Indianapolis	2	4	0	.333	139	131
Houston	1	5	0	.167	92	172
Jacksonville	1	5	0	.167	116	172

North

Baltimore	5	1	0	.833	170	123
Cincinnati	4	2	0	.667	148	111
Cleveland	3	3	0	.500	156	151
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	.500	117	132

West

L.A. Chargers	4	2	0	.667	148	150
Las Vegas	4	2	0	.667	147	144
Denver	3	3	0	.500	126	110
Kansas City	3	3	0	.500	185	176

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	5	1	0	.833	205	146
Philadelphia	2	4	0	.333	137	152
Washington	2	4	0	.333	136	186
N.Y. Giants	1	5	0	.167	114	177

South

Tampa Bay	5	1	0	.833	195	144
New Orleans	3	2	0	.600	127	91
Carolina	3	3	0	.500	143	121
Atlanta	2	3	0	.400	105	148

North

Green Bay	5	1	0	.833	144	136
Chicago	3	3	0	.500	98	124
Minnesota	3	3	0	.500	147	137
Detroit	0	6	0	.000	109	172

West

Arizona	6	0	0	1.000	194	109
L.A. Rams	5	1	0	.833	179	127
San Francisco	2	3	0	.400	117	119
Seattle	2	4	0	.333	140	149

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RNV nips Team CNMI; Rampage grounds SMA

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

RNV capitalized on a shorthanded Team CNMI crew and nipped them, 76-75, while Rampage bounced back from last week's loss by beating SMA Flyers, 64-54, as action in the Island-wide Men's Bud Light Basketball League continued last Monday at the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium.

The opener was an up-and-down affair with RNV taking full advantage of a Team CNMI crew that has been decimated by player suspensions, injury, or simply players not suiting up due to work.

RNV raced to a 23-15 lead after one quarter of play and then held a 39-34 spread at the half thanks in large part to the offensive prowess of Red Borca.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Rampage players of the Island-wide Men's Bud Light Basketball League pose in this file photo after a recent game.

Team CNMI rallied in the third led by Louise Maligson and Dennis Borja as they managed to outscore RNV, 27-17, in the quarter to take a 61-56 spread into the payoff period.

RNV, however, survived Team CNMI's uprising in the final 10 minutes of the contest as the latter's remaining five players began to feel the effects of fatigue. Borca also went berserk again in the fourth quarter to preserve RNV's matchstick win.

Borca led RNV's balanced attack with 18 points, while Jhello Bungabong and Felipe Laoyon added 13 markers apiece for the now 5-8 team. Team CNMI, which dropped to 4-9, was led by the 30 points of Maligson and 24 of Borja.

Like the first game, the second game between Rampage and SMA was also nip and tuck. SMA took an early 14-9 lead in the first quarter, but Rampage took the advantage back, leading 27-25 at the half.

SMA again took the upper hand after three quarters of play, 61-56, as Christopher Opando and Tanley Villagracia combined for 11 points. But Leo Pascua had other plans as the long-distance marksman fired four triples in the fourth to lead a late-game Rampage breakaway.

Rampage, which improved to 10-3 in a tie with second-placer Devil Dog Warriors, was led by the 26 points of Pascua, while Jayron Epity added 21. Jason Doria was the high-point man for the now 3-9 SMA.

First Game

RNV 76 – Borca 18, Laoyon 13, Bungabong 13, Ubaundo 12, Rizardo 7, Alagos 5, Albano 4, Sañosa 2, Tortor 2, Bacuyag 2.

Team CNMI 75 – Maligson 30, D. Borja 24, Lizama 12, E. Borja 7, Rutor 1, Manansala 1.

Scoring by quarters: 23-15, 39-35, 56-61, 76-75.

Second Game

Rampage 64 – Pascua 26, J. Epity 21, Cepeda 11, E. Epity 4, Joanes 2.

SMA 54 – Jas. Doria 19, Opanda 10, Jan. Doria 10, Villagracia 7, Fletcher 4, Cajilla 2, Lagunay 2.

Scoring by quarters: 9-14, 27-25, 38-42, 64-54.

TEAM

From Page 20

for a batting average of .375

Dickinson, who made it to the CNMI All-Star Team selections in Major, Junior, and Senior League categories, is now preparing for the opening of the collegiate season in January next year.

"I am preparing for the fall ball and would definitely wait for more information about the baseball team in the Mini Games," the lefty said.

Players warm up

Saipan Baseball League president Jay Santos said they are now working on finalizing the coaching staff so they could move forward with the preparations and selection process for the NMI National Baseball Team.

"Once this is complete, we will have everything else in place," Santos said.

Though the coaching staff has yet to be determined, players interested in donning the colors of the Commonwealth for next year's Mini Games have been holding pitching and catching practices at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Softball Field since Oct. 4. Practices are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

SBL has been utilizing the "Tan Ge" field since the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield is unavailable and awaiting the long-overdue repairs from the damage it sustained from two super typhoons. The Northern Mariana Sports Association has installed lights at the "Tan Ge" field, as players are scheduled to practice from 5:30pm to 7pm.

NMI players would need a lot of catching up to get ready for the Mini Games because they haven't played in more than a year since the pandemic struck. All eyes would be on the host team, as the last time the NMI competed in a Pacific-wide baseball competition, the islands' bets won the gold medal. The Tony Rogolifoi-managed NMI Team defeated rival Guam, 8-4, in the finals during the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

MALASARTE

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managed to give her 100% during tournaments.

Malasarte said she's been playing badminton since 2008 and was supposed to suit up in the women's singles A division, but unfortunately the organizing Northern Marianas Badminton Association didn't offer it during the tournament.

Malasarte's willingness to do everything in her power to win was also in full display in the mixed doubles. She teamed up with youthful Hajin Oh to overwhelm Lance Gallardo and Hannah Choi, 21-18, 21-10.

This time, Malasarte said it was her partner that led them to the championship, adding that Oh has a bright future in the sport and seemed to be everywhere on the court against Gallardo and Choi.

Malasarte's magic, however, ran out in the women's doubles, as she and Yoko Borja succumbed to eventual champions Windy Fernandez and Choi in the semifinals, 10-21, 13-21.

Fernandez and Choi then completed their undefeated run to the women's doubles title after outlasting Lucelle Lampera and Michaella Sanchez, 21-6, 18-21, 21-17. Lampera and Sanchez barged into the championship round following a tough 21-6, 18-21, 21-17 victory over the mother-and-daughter tandem of Loyda and Angie Ito.

In the men's doubles, Gallardo teamed up with Chris Hilario to beat Hajin Oh and John Oh in the championship round, 21-15, 21-16.

Gallardo and Hilario earlier made the Group A finals after they didn't clown around in beating Allan Relativo and Hapi Gabriel, 21-15, 17-21, 21-17. The Ohs, meanwhile, got the better of Patrick Fieldad and Thomas Lin in a dogfight of a finals in Group B, 21-11, 9-21, 21-20, to advance to the finals.

A total of 29 players competed in the TakeCare Insurance Co., Inc.-sponsored tournament. Results of the C singles, doubles, and mixed doubles will be published in tomorrow's issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

End Game are champs of men's 3x3

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Matthew Richardson, Coby Santos, Eli Aughenbaugh, and Eman Feria didn't need an assist from Captain America and the rest of the Avengers to take home the championship of the men's division of the NMIBF 3×3 Hoop Fest last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With Richardson proving more ignitable than the Human Torch, End Game routed Babeholics in the finals, 17-9. The Rollers mainstay led the champions with 10 points, while Santos, Feria, and Aughenbaugh combined for the rest of the 7 markers.

Babeholics was paced by Frankie Satur and Khristian Itaas who both pumped in 4 markers, while Kayjay Kabiriel accounted for the other 1 point in the loss. Both End Game and Babeholics entered the championship game with unblemished 3-0 win-loss records.

Richardson said the championship in the men's division was the icing in the cake of a fun weekend of basketball.

"Just wanted to say it was a fun experience going against some of our national team members and seeing where the competition on island has gone, too. It was competitive and overall I had a great time," he said.

Santos, for his part, said he's proud that his home team Ol'Aces went undefeated during the 3x3 tournament.

"Going undefeated was a challenge for us. All teams were split up evenly and every single of them have potential. Therefore, the road to the championship was not easy as everyone we faced put up a great challenge," he said.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
End Game's Eli Aughenbaugh, center, drives against Babeholics' Frankie Satur, right, and Kristian Itaas during their finals match in the men's open division of the NMIBF 3x3 Hoop Fest held last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Women's B division singles champion Malou Malasarte, right, poses with runner-up Rowena Houck during the TakeCare Badminton Open 2021 awards ceremony last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium's conference room.

Malasarte marvelous in B division

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Malou Malasarte dominated the B division of the TakeCare Badminton Open 2021 after taking home two titles over the weekend at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The 42-year-old businesswoman first topped the women's singles after beating Rowena Houck in the finals. Malasarte and Houck were locked in a dead heat in the first set before the former eventually pulled out a 21-20 victory.

In the second set, Malasarte took an early lead and never looked back and won the championship with an easy 21-5 win.

The Dasmariñas, Cavite in the Philippines native said she always gives her best while playing badminton. That's why despite her busy schedule running Pepoy's Restacafe and lack of practice she still

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Collegiate player eyes stint with NMI baseball team

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
In this Feb. 18, 2020 photo, former NMI Little League All-Star player Spencer Dickinson is seen playing for the College of the Desert during their game against the LA Valley in the Inland Empire Conference of the California Community College Athletic Association in Los Angeles.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former Little League All-Star player and now collegiate standout Spencer Dickinson has expressed interest in suiting up for the CNMI National Baseball Team in the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022.

Dickinson has inquired with former teammates on Saipan about the selection process and other details on the team and competition and received partial information from them.

"I would love to represent the CNMI, I would love to play in my home town and win that gold medal," Dickinson told *Saipan Tribune*.

Dickinson is now based in California and is with the College of the Desert, competing in the Inland Empire Conference of the California Community College Athletic Association. The 20-year-old was part of the Roadrunners' starting unit during his rookie season in 2019 and had high hopes for his sophomore year until the COVID-19 pandemic halted his second season with the team.

When baseball resumed mid last year as restrictions had been eased, the College of the Desert third baseman played in the Palm Springs Collegiate League and was selected to the All-Star Team. He saw action in 18 games in the summer league against seven teams at the Ranger College and was 15-for-40 at the plate

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